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MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN
RECEIVED
MAY 30 1926
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Mr. Wister (center) at work in the new Alphabetical Planting of Irises at the Bronx.

A Pool in the Garden of Robert Wayman.
Irises with a back-ground of lilacs and flowering shrubs.

Some Irises of the Future

Sydney B. Mitchel, Calif.

Having noted that a man's prophecies seem to be remembered when they prove correct and forgotten when they are not borne out by events, I am, perhaps rashly, venturing to suggest some of the possibilities before us in the garden irises of bearded or closely allied types. And being by nature a cautious man I have made sure that some of my prophecies will be fulfilled by including mention of seedlings I have already seen. The blooming in my garden last spring of about three thousand of the late Mr. Mohr's seedlings besides many of my own, and later conversations with many leading iris breeders during a visit to the Atlantic coast must share the blame for these outpourings.

Among pure bearded irises the dwarfs come first, but there I see no great hope of improvement. Selection from the easily grown seedlings may give varieties of slightly clearer or deeper coloring, but that is about all. With intermediates the case is different. For many years there were no improvements, then came Soledad, a pale yellow of taller habit, purer color and better style than any we had before, because, though one of its parents was a dwarf yellow, the other was Trojana. A sister seedling, never introduced, smaller but very distinct in its white flowers with yellow beard and heavily yellow reticulated base, shows the possibilities of variation in such crosses. Here is a new field to work. The crossing of pumilas with the even larger mesopotamica, cypriana, or Ricardi should give a still finer series of intermediates, of which the recently registered Primavera is a foretaste,—a clear primrose yellow unequalled in its color for size, substance, and form, but quite evidently an intermediate, judged from its comparatively short stems, its great floriferousness, and its early season of flowering. The use of the yellow form of Alberti may also bring surprises in this group inasmuch as the typical lavender form has aided Mr. Dykes in getting earlier pallidas.

Among the taller bearded irises we shall sometime get nearly all those for which we are trying. I hope we shall not all try for the same things. Californians are prone to place a great emphasis on size of flower and height of stem. Under some conditions these are highly desirable, but in small gardens, for planting near paths, and for table decoration indoors we want to continue extending the color range and improving the habit of flowers of moderate size. Our ideal here should be a plant which will make a nice heavily flowered clump with leafage, stem, and flowers all in good proportion. Afterglow, Quaker Lady, Jeanne d'Arc, Delicatissima (Millet), and Corrida will suggest what I mean by this. In this group we need and shall get more blues and lavenders of better substance and purged of the red-purple undertones which impair their purity. I have already seen one blue seedling of a remarkable substance and of a purity which oddly enough seems often to be associated with white or yellow parents. We shall also have much improved whites, of creamier tones and livened up by deep yellow beards derived from yellow or squalens parents; also more yellows, of course, and beautiful blends in bronze and biscuit, new combinations due to the crossing of the pallida yellows with squalens. Pink and yellow have thus far been rather distressing in combination, as for example in Darius. I am sure we shall soon have pleasing blends of creamy yellow and pink, delightfully dainty garden flowers. Squalens plicatas in markings still unknown are quite possible. Yellow ground plicatas can hardly escape our breeders much longer—perhaps someone has them already.

Beside these very necessary garden flowers all breeders have in their minds definite advances desired in what we call show flowers. In some directions improvement seems difficult, yet there are few really perfect flowers of perfect growth. The ideal stem for a show flower is still rather rare. Among standard varieties, Alcazar is an approach. In Esplendido the placing is even better, each flower standing free of all others on the fine branched candelabra stem. Coronado and Dulcinea, still unintroduced, have a similar arrangement, but even among thousands of seedlings derived from branching parents like mesopotamica or trojana the really quite satisfactory stems are terribly few. Time will bring more.

The form of most flowers still leaves room for improvement. How many variegatas have really good broad falls, or plicatas the fine rounded form of Miss Sturtevant's Delight? Many of our most distinctive flowers lack balance—Isoline is an outstanding example—because the standards are too large for the falls. As selections from many seedlings take place we shall have more broad petalled, well proportioned flowers with either flat, flaring or straight hanging falls, not tucked under. Size should not be a fetish, yet given proper proportion and adequate stems most gardeners would prefer larger flowers and are looking for big whites, pinks, yellows, and blends to match the existing lavenders and purples.

In substance there is also opportunity for improvement, and selection should be made with it in mind, for it means flowers which will last much longer in our gardens in sunshine and in rain. I myself greatly value Avalon because one year a heavy hail storm cut to pieces every other variety in bloom in my garden excepting that flower of unusual substance. Dominion is of course going to have a number of thick-skinned progeny, and I fail to see why Sindjkha, Lent A. Williamson, and the already mentioned Coronado should not pass on their fine substance to some of their descendants. An unintroduced seedling of Miss Sturtevant's, Crinoline, will I venture to say give unusual thickness of petal when properly mated.

Lastly, color. This is the really exciting field, the one in which we may expect not only improvements over varieties in colors already existing but shades and combinations still unimagined. I am sure we shall have as big pure whites as Alcazar or Lent A. Williamson, and of as fine form and substance. The crossing of existing whites with outstanding flowers of other colors will bring them. It can only be a question of time before we have tall branched yellows of Caterina size. The materials are now available to produce them but time is necessary to make the series of crosses which may be required. The paler shades will appear first, and in the process beautiful creams will come into existence. Deep golden yellows of pallida type we already have, and in this class we shall also get flowers of buff orange and perhaps golden brown. There is room for even finer blues, that is, flowers of better shape, substance and purity of color—the best I have seen is still unintroduced—and we shall have them warmed up with lovely golden beards. It is going to be hard to beat a blue-purple like Gaudichau, but there is room for other shades in that range and in velvety red-purples we want and shall get Operas of Alcazar size and height. The Dominion seedlings alone will provide a series of deep, dark, rich irises, and doubtless the progeny of Lent A. Williamson, of Alcazar, of Esplendido, and of other dark, heavy flowers will be of similar character.

We seem to have about reached the limit of improvement in pallida pinks, but the whole field of mesopotamica, cypriana, and related

pinks is still before us, and from these parents we can expect taller stems, larger flowers of better substance, and a wider range of shades than in the more stable pallidas. Clement Desormes and J. B. Dumas, seedlings of Ricardi with Her Majesty, show the possibilities in the first generation. Mesopotamica will give even broader flowers, better substance, and more vigorous growth, and we shall have lilac pinks of half, quarter, or eighth mesopotamica parentage outclassing anything yet introduced. A pure pink seems about as far off as ever.

The years are not many since we have had large blends like Mme. Durrand, Asia, Mme. Cheri, or Sherbet. I believe these are only a beginning. We are certain to get Quaker Lady and Eldorado colorings in flowers twice their size and height. There will be interesting variants of the Asia type, and seedlings of Sherbet which will retain its tall growth and vigor with far more delicate or brilliant blendings of color.

Really fine flowers of variegata coloring, with the brightness of Fro, for example, will be slow in coming in plants of Caterina growth. Thus far, as is seen in Menetrier, (Ricardi x Gracchus), the yellow is dulled and the red muddied, but the parentage of Mr. Bliss's Citronella shows how unexpectedly variegata coloring may make its appearance, and this year the first flowering of a seedling of variegata coloring with a parentage of (mesopotamica x Juniata) x Parisiana x (mesopotamica x Parisiana) shows how little we really know about what may come. I think big variegatas not only possible but probable, though harder to get than big yellow selfs. We shall see.

For plicatas with a very few exceptions I have had little enthusiasm, for they are mostly of poor shape, as for example Mme. Chereau, with its tall skinny stems and pinched blooms, flattish flowers like E. L. Crandall, or those of unattractive markings like Parisiana. There is really no need for this inferiority, for it is quite possible to make very big, well-shaped plicatas to order, and with proportionately tall stems and branching habit. Plicatas of Sherbet growth, tall but not particularly graceful, have already appeared and suggest new possibilities in coloring if by combining them with plicatas of differing parentage we can still get plicatas.

Seedlings with a tendency to flower in autumn are appearing in France, the middle west, and on the Pacific coast. Here is an opportunity for selection. In all favorable seasons I am sure there will be in California gardens in a few years many more bearded irises which flower in fall than the few red-purples we now have. Ramona gives promise in its own home of being a steady fall bloomer, and I have saved a Parisiana seedling, quite similar to its parent, only because it flowers regularly every autumn.

Just what may be the far-reaching results of the breeding of Regelias and Oncocyclus with pogonirises it is still too soon to say. Doubtless there will be some lessening of the vigor of the bearded iris to offset the new color combinations which these crosses bring about. It may be that some of these crossbred seedlings will prove difficult in climates subject to frequent changes in winter temperatures and in gardens where drainage could be better. This has been so with Sir Michael Foster's Iberica crosses and Mr. Williamson's Susiana seedlings. The Parisiana X Gatesii hybrid registered as "William Mohr" has survived one winter and flowered in a favorable middle western garden, but that is an inadequate test. Perhaps such crosses will be best given frame or greenhouse treatment in some climates, but they will all grow vigorously, flower and increase in California under ordinary garden culture, and will doubtless be sought after by gardeners in

such favorable climates. For years it was assumed that such hybrids were sterile, but the late Mr. Mohr found that the pollen of Van Tubergen's Ibmacrantha (Iberica x Macrantha) was potent, and he raised seedlings from trojana, Oriflamme, and mesopotamica, all large, round, dark flowers of no great garden importance though of undeniable distinction. These will be of further value in breeding, though we hardly know yet what qualities they may impart. The pollen of mesopotamica x Ibmacrantha has already given seedlings of rich, dark color and extraordinarily heavy substance in all cases, the best one yet flowered resembling a very vigorous Dominion, though that variety does not figure in the parentage. With the proportion of Oncocyclus reduced to one-eighth, they appear to possess all the vigor of a pure pogoniris. With gatesii, lorteti, and other Oncocyclus irises again becoming available, what may we not look for here?

The related Regelias offset their smaller size by greater health and vigor than the Oncocyclus, and when crossed with pogonirises they give very distinctive and attractive seedlings in quite new shades and markings, sometimes small flowers with the unusual blue of Carmelo, the mouse color of Bellorio, or the odd grey of a recent korolkowi x Caterina cross; sometimes with big spreading flowers in new combinations of lavender with blue lines, plants apparently able to stand the vagaries of winter in England or in the eastern United States. Here there is a fine field for California breeders to get new colors, and as one of them I look forward with impatience to the flowering of korolkowi x Ramona annd of korolkowi x a Shekinah seedling. California breeders may also combine Regelias with the Oncopogons, and can hardly fail of new and interesting color combinations, lovely mulberry and new purples due to the crossing of korolkowi with Ibmacrantha being merely a foretaste of what may be possible in a future when many gardeners with imagination and patience continue the work William Mohr was not permitted to carry on.

True Judgment and False

B. Y. Morrison, Washington, D. C.

When the first new lists of the year come to hand, no one turns more eagerly to discover the promised delights of introductions than the gardener who has commenced to specialize in some particular plant group. His thrill is even more acute than that of the veriest beginner because it brings with it the pleasures of speculation, of conjecture and of attempted estimate, which no beginner can ever have so fully. But in these days when every list of specialists in iris has one or more of novelties to offer, even the most practiced amateur must pause before the host of named sorts set out for his enticement.

It is almost an inescapable experience, that sooner or later our choices from the mass of the unknown shall have among them some plants that are bitter disappointments. And the great danger is that when this occurs sooner, rather than later, we will be tempted to turn aside to the consolation that probably all the rest untried are as poor.

The varieties that I have chosen myself with the highest of hopes, only to decide that they did not please me have been many, and while I cannot exclaim as one correspondent did, "To think I paid sixty good dollars for that thing", I have a fellow feeling for him and all others, who have chosen unwisely, yet because I have the greatest belief that the iris breeders in our own country are truly on their way to the production

of iris that are really finer, I should like to pass on the idea which has been of greatest consolation to me in these moments of dismay, namely that this period in iris history is essentially one of transition and not of fulfilment. The influence of the work of Sir Michael Foster with his introduction and use of Iris trojana, the work of the continental breeders and of our own Mr. Farr and Miss Sturtevant are too well known to need rehearsing. The appearance of the special iris catalogue is entirely familiar. But these things point only to progress, and should inspire us to greater faith. The one desirable thing is that from time to time we examine our current standard of judgment and see if it is influenced more strongly by our emotion than by our intellect.

This is indeed somewhat difficult to do. I am aware that I have strongly developed personal preferences which would always govern any uncalculated choice that I might make. But there remain certain fundamental characteristics which should appear in every desirable iris quite aside from those intimate delights which would make it the object of our personal affection.

Before examining the possible field of the iris development, it is pleasant to recall the cults of the florist's flowers of Europe. Their day for the most part is over, for as one reads the reports of the tulip shows for example, and watches the inroads that the gorgeous but not subtle Darwin varieties upon the more studied and intellectual delights of the English florist's tulips, he realizes that the latter remains dear only in the hearts of the faithful. The passion for the auricula, in its astonishing forms as seen in such books as "The Florist's Guide" (Ed. by Ayres and Moore) is not so common a devotion as once. To the modern eye, even one willing to be as sympathetic as possible, it seems that these cults may have died of their own astuteness, of their own intellectual superiority. Pray no such fate may await the bearded iris, that the day will never come when we will demand that the stalk be such and such a height, the open flower such and such a shape and the marking developed to certain definite schemes and no others!

The beginner's interest in iris usually centers in color. Commonly he next discovers some of the physical features, as the shape of the flower, the habit of the plant and the height of the stalk. But when he commences to see the flower, to become near sighted about it, then he faces the dangers of the artificialities which were the downfall of the tulip, the auricula and the picotee.

Before he resigns himself to the more or less fictitious delights which truly may be had from the minute study of the venation of the haft, the comparative width and breadth of the segments, of fall to standard, there are certain features which should be well in mind and which every flower for introduction to general garden culture should have. Of these there are certainly three which are not open to debate. Every one should be able to demand of a plant that it be vigorous, free flowering and provided with blooms that are not conspicuously fragile, for without these it is not a garden plant. At once the discussion is on as to the definition of these terms. For me it would mean a plant that increased not so rapidly as the prolific Princess Victoria Louise, nor so slowly as Kashmir White; which bloomed annually so that one year after replanting that foliage was not more conspicuous than the flowers; and which produced blooms that would stand up under a moderate shower, slight wind or moderate rise in temperature. As opposed to these there are other factors which are open to rather more liberal interpretation. They include, the height and branching habit of the bloom stalk, the color of the flower, and the shape of the flower. Every one of

these features are so variable that they allow a range of personal taste to accommodate every gardener. Monotony is the inevitable result of too much of any good thing and so it is with iris characters. If every iris were four feet tall, we should greet some new one ten inches tall with the abandon we once had for the newer tall ones! And there is a special place for them, not only in the foremost parts of the garden border, but in masses to break up the surface of the border. And as for the stalk, who can fail to enjoy the strong wide branching of the trojana iris and yet not delight as much in the slender compact stalk of a little cengialti hybrid. What a multitude of tastes can be suited in the matter of choice of color. I, who care relatively little for pink, need not have it, but it can be the very goal above all others for some other gardener, while my own particular favorites with deep velvety falls, may not even appear on the rim of his attention. But be this as it may I do think it permissible to say a word for clarity in color, recommending that the colors be clean and pure even in their most neutral shades, for the very translucent quality of the iris tissue, is part of its distinctive charm and this is obscured by too opaque or too mixed color. Of the remaining variables there is less to say. I know that I prefer certain forms of flower more than others but even with this knowledge, I believe I can recognize that there are other forms which are beautiful in their own way and which must be judged by the best of their own type rather than by my preferred type.

To summarize, remember that this is a period of transition; that the iris in America is still on its upward path; that possibly none of the varieties of the day will last always, but that they are important for their own contribution of the evolution of the iris of the future; remember also that the first requirements of a "good" iris are vigor, floriferousness, and durability and that without these no matter how wonderful its other qualities, it is really not a garden candidate.

Why Concentrate on Bearded Irises?

Sherman R. Duffy, Illinois.

The orientation of the iridomaniac, an expensive process, will result in a keener appreciation, I believe, of the garden value and beauty of the beardless species and their hybrids. In one respect, foliage, they excel the more popular tall bearded class as it is fine all season, particularly among the tall growing spuria varieties which form fine foliage contrasts in mixed plantings.

The purchase of a number of high priced irises which prove to be very similar or practically identical in garden effect is likely to bring about an adjustment of values. A garden of small dimensions does not need both Lord of June and Ballerine, for instance. The latter is the finer and better grower for me although I find this is contrary to the experience of others, Lord of June proving more vigorous but its habit of caving in is against it while Ballerine supports its standards nobly and is delightfully perfumed.

The question of the real garden value of irises was brought home to me this year rather emphatically by visitors who knew nothing of the relative monetary value of the irises but were judging them solely by their appeal to the eye. Mme. Gaudichau, Prospero, and other new and high priced irises received scant attention compared with a bed of Celeste and Queen of May in alternating clumps bordered with cerastium. Second in favor was the ancient Flavescens among pink pyreth-

rums bordered with swamp forget-me-not, Myosotis palustris. Many of the old irises are very good irises and not yet displaced by newcomers.

The beardless irises produce beautiful garden effects, fully as fine as the tall bearded to my way of thinking. Sibericas give a mass of blue hard to equal. The spurias, taller and with graceful foliage make a wonderful display. A favorite planting of mine is 20 feet of Spuria, Mrs. A. W. Tait and umbellatum lilies. This iris is a fine cut flower and seems specially designed for Japanese wall pockets and vases, with a spear or so of its own foliage.

These beardless or wet irises are not so wet as to be fanatical about it. They can be grown well in soil inclined to be dry as is mine, which is a sand patch perched upon a sandstone ledge that is 40 feet deep that I know of. We who were brought up in the country know that the ponds and sloughs where the flag, iris versicolor, flourishes dry up in our long, hot summers, the mud bakes into bricks and checks and cracks all over the surface but the flags on the edges and thoroughly dry do not suffer.

I feared for a time that I could not grow the beardless irises in my dry garden but decided to try it and found that I could do so as the main requirement is wetness in spring and fall while they will stand considerable drying in summer. A dust mulch maintained from the first of July until September is the chief cultural requirement with an occasional soaking in cases of protracted drought. If September does not bring the rains, I make it a practice to start giving them a soaking once a week.

In this way I am growing Japanese, Siberian, orientalis, ochroleuca aurea, monspurs, spurias, pseudacorus and versicolor, the last named having been dug from the edge of the Illinois River and moved high and dry to the bank 40 feet above the water where it is flourishing.

In addition I have I. chrysographes, bulleyana, and Forrestii colonies in flourishing condition one year old from seed. I secured this seed from Barr & Sons for the purpose of experimenting with hybrids as suggested by Mr. W. R. Dykes in "Les Irises Cultives" but along comes a leaflet from Perry's Plant Farm in England with the work already done so seeds of these hybrids are in the ground awaiting spring and I am saved two years or more.

I have sown seed this fall of some of the Californians although I have no idea whether I can grow them or not but plant information is so elastic and subject to so many conditions the only safe way to find out is to try.

The stateliest and handsomest iris I saw this year was I. ochroleuca, the gold banded iris. I first saw a fine clump of it beside the pool in the demonstration gardens of The Garden Magazine and Home Builder at Garden City in late June when Leonard Barron, editor of the magazine, was kind enough to rescue me from the rigors of New York hotel life and make me safe from the democrats on Long Island during Sundays of the convention period. Returning west after the convention I found the stately gold banded iris in bloom on Chicago's north shore in remarkable profusion for this iris which is none too generous, in my experience, and taller than I had ever seen it grow before, fully five feet, the wretched, cold, wet weather suiting it exactly to all appearances.

I found a very fine beardless iris in the same garden with ochroleuca of which I secured a root that I have been unable to identify. The owner of the garden said it was a Siberian variety but it seemed from the general shape of the flower to be more of the spuria type. It grew

about two feet tall, foliage a little broader than siberica, standards pale blue, the falls white and beautifully veined with porcelain blue. I have searched all catalogues for a description to correspond but can't find it. Will someone please identify it?

Perry's Blue is as fine an iris as could be asked for in its huge flowers for a siberica and delicate pale shades. Its popularity is attested by the fact nurseries seemed to be sold out of it this summer.

Beardless irises can be moved and divided after blooming but I have found that it is bad practice and pretty sure to result in no bloom the following year. The plants are weakened by the shock and slow to recover and a percentage of them will be lost. They should be moved in the spring just as growth starts and even though divided at this time will still flower, I find. They may be moved in the fall if given a good mulch to keep them from heaving but early spring is the best.

Nearly all are as easy to grow from seeds as garden annuals, particularly the sibericas so it is easy to secure a good stock.

The dainty little crested iris, cristata, I moved and divided in July this year, contrary to advice I have read in different magazines but it went along as if nothing had happened and made good growth and established itself.

The long, cold wet spring was too much for Iris Susiana. I had a nice clump of it in flourishing condition but along in early May it began to droop and before long was no more. Frosts and cold rain were the death of it.

A new wrinkle in the treatment of those bearded irises which are resentful of wet feet in winter presented itself to me this year although it may be common practice. This is the use of tar paper to cover these delicate beauties during the winter. Sash is usually advised but it is a nuisance to carry any considerable amount of sash and provide supports for it and there is also considerable upkeep in breakage.

D. B. Cropp, senior partner of Vaughan's and the iris "bug" of the firm, told me they used this method to carry irises like Dominion and a few others of which they were doubtful over the winter. As tar paper sells at something under $2 for 500 ft. rolls, it is a simple matter to protect irises in this manner. I place inverted flower pots here and there about the beds to be covered to prevent the paper from matting down upon the plants and anchor it with bricks and stones, thus leaving plenty of circulation of air under the paper.

In an article in the English weekly, The Garden, republished in The Flower Grower, Mr. W. R. Dykes, the English iris authority, advises against the planting of iris seed in cold frames on the ground that the stuffy atmosphere of the frames will cause the seed to rot. This is undoubtedly a well founded warning for the English climate but there is something to be said for cold frame sowing in the climate of northern Illinois and similar latitudes.

Cold frame sowing gives about two months additional growth the first year and a greater percentage of bloom the second year. That is the reason I plant seeds concerning which I am most particular in the cold frame. Then, too, they are protected from the wash of heavy rains in the fall and early spring which usually takes their toll.

This spring iris seed sown in the cold frame was coming through the soil on March 13. I have had it come up in February in warmer winters but as it is 13 below zero at this writing there probably will be no early germination next spring. Seed sown in the open ground, owing to the cold, backward season did not begin to appear until the first week in May. By that time the cold frame seedlings were three inches high and ready for transplanting.

As we are bound to have sub zero climate, last year it hit 24 below on one occasion, the cold frame even with double glass sash and protection is bound to freeze and the seed will have plenty of weathering.

Iris chrysographes seed sown the spring of 1923 lay over a year and did not germinate until last spring but seed of Iris Forrestii and Bulleyana sown in mid April germinated in three weeks and caught up with chrysographes.

The possibilities of my warm, sandy soil have not been tested out for irises of mesopotamica blood but I am trying a group of the species to see whether they will flourish giving them a tar paper protection. The behaviour of irises in my sand patch is markedly different in some varieties from plantings in the heavy prairie and clay soils after we leave the river valleys.

Lohengrin is a vigorous grower with large rhizomes, strong heavy foliage and large flowers in my sand. In a friend's black prairie soil garden it is about one third the size. Parisiana is much larger both in plant and in flower for me. On the other hand, variegata types with the exception of Darius seem shorter of stature and smaller of bloom in my garden. Maori King is seldom over eight inches tall.

The cold wet season had a curious effect upon the seeding of the irises. The bees remained at home during the deluge so very few pods were formed except by artificial fertilization. We are told by iris authorities that the pollen spoils in wet weather and the seed crop was marked this year by the small number of seeds and by pods which grew to mature proportions but when they ripened contained nothing but atmosphere and abortive seeds. A pod of Lent A. Williamson crossed with Shekinah proved a hollow mockery of this kind and a great disappointment. However, a friend gave me a pod of Lent A. crossed by aurea. If I get something worthwhile out of this pod the old conundrum of the mother of the chicken, the hen that laid the egg or the hen that hatched it, arises. Whose iris is it?

Flavescens which has never seeded before in my garden produced several pods. Amas produced two, one with one seed and another with two. Several variegatas which I have never succeeded in inducing to form pods produced one or two seeds apiece. Mme. Chobaut crossed with aurea gave one large seed. In fact the seed crop was short.

Spanish irises did not like the cold wet spring. They were short in stature and the flowers were small. I planted a good crop of seed which germinated very readily and have 200 young plants. As bulbs are scarce it is a good idea to hoard the seed to keep up the supply. These irises need four or five years to reach blooming size but a planting each year will produce a succession in due time and they take little space and need little attention while growing.

An Iris Calendar for Texas

Mrs. J. W. Larned

In sending in the following blooming dates Mrs. Larned writes concerning the time of planting and mentions a rot that is hard to control during the hot dry summers, apparently something quite different than our ordinary Bacillus omnivorus which dislikes a sunburn.

"I have demonstrated thoroughly that September is the only time of the year to plant iris in Texas. Collections of older varieties have made this not too expensive a test for me. If planted in the spring or June or August our hot sun bakes them so thoroughly that they are affected with rot before cool weather sets in. If planted in September,

about the middle part, we have nights cool enough so that they hardly know they have come miles to reside in different soils. I often find it wise to mulch plants on the west side for the first year at least."

Feb. 12. Iris Pumila in bloom
Mch. 30. " " still in bloom
Mch. 30. Purple iris—common variety in bloom
Apr. 3. White iris—common variety in bloom
Apr. 14. Walhalla
" 15. Dorothea
" 16. Helge
" 17. Mad Chereau
" 21. Trojana
" 22. Mt. Penn
" 23. Windham
" 25. Princess Victoria Louise—Caterina—Quaker Lady—
" 25. Spanish Iris—various colors
" 28. Eldorado—Monsignor—Albert Victor—pseudacorus.
" 29. Alcazar—Princess Beatrice—Juniata.
" 30. Navajo—Pallida Dalmatica
May 1. Fairy
" 2. E. L. Crandall—Mrs. Neubronner
" 3. Canary Bird
" 4. Blue Jay
" 5. Nokomis
" 8. Loreley
May 15. Still in bloom—Blue Jay—E. L. Crandall—Monsignor—Alcazar—Princess Beatrice—Fairy—Loreley—Canary Bird—Navajo
May 22. Last bloom on Blue Jay opened.

The Resistance of Protoplasm

Dr. W. McL. Ayres

The season, an unusually dry one even for Cincinnati in late summer, had measurably weakened the resistance of the iris and those not watered at intervals as were my seedlings began to show the changes of fall earlier than usual. About the same time a veritable plague of aphides covered the leaves. Perhaps I let them get too good a start as these invaders were almost new ones to my garden. However I tried to make up for lost time, spraying first with arsenate of lead and then with a nicotine solution. Finding neither of these effective in thinning the ranks I dusted on a much extolled powder until the leaves and even the ground were red. Still they waxed fat and multiplied. Then deciding that winter was near enough and would take care of them nothing was done except to go over my choicest seedlings of last year and a few other favorites squeezing the aphides against the leaves between the fingers. This was really a very efficient method of destroying (on a small scale) them but I know that many of them kept a weather eye open and would drop to the ground and escape destruction. Perhaps it was the shaking of the leaves that did this but apparently it was an instinct of self-preservation.

Now for the part that interests me.

In November we had a cold spell that sent the thermometer down to nine degrees above zero for two consecutive days and it remained down quite far during the day as well. Were these aphides killed? Not by any means. The males (the small ones) were dead but the females

after about fifteen minutes of room temperature were seen moving about and far from moribund. So I thought that I would wait for zero weather. That would certainly finish them.

In December we had several days with zero and below (Cincinnati Weather Bureau reported 3 below). Again I gathered some leaves after searching in the snow and ice for those with aphides attached. The leaves were actually frozen brittle and apparently showing crystals in their stroma when examined under the magnifying glass. And the aphides certainly looked frozen too and in very truth they were for their usual greenish color was replaced by a duller opalescent hue and not a move or sign was seen as I pushed or touched them here and there. But as I watched during the course of half an hour it was noted that their normal color was returning, especially along their backs and they seemed softer to the proddings of the point of an iris leaf. Then one began slowly to move one of its antenna. At first I did not know whether I had seen some movement or only imagined so but another started to painfully extend and stretch its legs and soon quite a number were able to walk especially when ruthlessly prodded. It recalled the time when, as a boy, I had seen Joseph Jefferson play Rip van Winkle and his waking up so cold and stiff up in that mountain scene, or, perhaps, the Wizard of Oz (I think it was) where the flowers all so cold and frozen by the snow and wintry winds came to life again at the touch of the fairy wand.

And today, January 5th, those aphides I brought into the house were still alive, all of which goes to prove that I have some work ahead for the early spring. This time I will burn over the beds which will answer perhaps the double purpose of killing the aphides and destroying the eggs of our uninvited visitor the iris borer. Let me also add that anyone who has studied these insects and their life history and who has examined them under a strong microscope, especially a binocular, will not let much time pass before making an effort to destroy them and prevent the sapping of the strength and life-blood of some of his favorite irises.

The New York Test Gardens

E. A. S. Peckham

The initial planting of irises at the New York Botanical Garden was made in 1920, the varieties arranged as received from the different contributors and in the spring of 1924 it was decided that replanting would be most desirable. The plan was to make one distinct arrangement of all varieties in alphabetical order in 1924 and another "show" planting of large masses of good varieties upon the present site as soon as possible. The plan and labels used by Mr. Boynton, the head gardener, and the copious notes made by Mrs. L. W. Hitchcock and her committee made it possible to make a definite step forward this last summer.

The actual work started on July 18th with Mr. Wister in charge, Mr. Boynton and all hands working like Trojans in a broiling sun. As the plants were dug they were labeled, rolled in newspaper and put in flats which were carried in wheelbarrows to the site of new alphabetical planting on the hill. There the permanent labels were already set in accordance with Mr. Wister's plan. Even with the excellent plan of the planting made by John Hartling, the foreman in charge of the iris garden the work of selecting the plants from a bed of several hundred where the labels had become overgrown or buried required both time and patience. In fact, after all available plants had been put in there

was still lacking a considerable number. An appeal brought in a good many plants from Mrs. Cleveland, Mrs. McKinney, Messrs. Farr, Bonnewitz, Weed, and others but we still need the varieties starred (*) in the list below. Some we were supposed to have but they were either wrongly labeled or did not survive.

During the summer we also cleared out a number of worthless duplicates moving to their places plants from beds which we wished to plant for show. We replanted the dwarfs in three beds (two of them new) in the center of the garden choosing twenty-five varieties for the purpose and arranging them in good-sized patches to give a mass of color and to enable a student to see the real effect these irises would produce in a garden. The varieties chosen for this show planting were:—Gorgeous, Berlioz, Blue Beard, Niobe, Lobelia, Mesge, Glee, Compacta, Schneekuppe, Marocain, Bride, Eclipse, Azurea, Blue Boy, Socrates, Siam, Orienta, Citrea, Black Midget, Armee d'Orient, California, La Pearl, Orange Queen, Statellae, Palladin and with the exception of Azurea, Siam, and Blue Boy we had sufficient stock to fill out the alloted spaces.

Another bed was also planted to color using the intermediates Empress, Dolphin, King Christian, Royal, Ingeborg, Prince Victor, Walhalla, Fritjof, Etta, germanica major, Ivorine, Don Carlos, John Foster, Florentina, Halfdan, and Dorothea. The inclusion of some of the germanica varieties was intentional as it is difficult to define the term intermediate with any exactitude and there will be another bed planted in 1925. We have assumed that an Intermediate as a variety of medium height blooming between the dwarf bearded and the tall. It looks badly to have spots of bloom dotted about the garden and this is another reason for this selection.

Low-growing species are being concentrated in the rock-garden and the Japanese and other apogons are also being segregated in special beds. There is one for the hardy natives, a damp one for certain of the beardless, one for Siberians and one as a place for a test of the new southern natives found by Dr. Small. We feel that we really have made great progress at the Test Garden this year but it is due to the accumulative result of the study carried on in previous years and the replanting in 1925 in accordance with the classification will be another test of our ability to plan in advance.

Note. I wish to again call to your attention the fact that we hope to have a certain surplus of good varieties available for the establishment of Show Gardens in other localities and any members interested should communicate with the Secretary. Ed.

CONTRIBUTORS

A great many members of the Society contributed varieties so that by 1924 over 1000 different ones had been presented. The thanks of the Society are due to the following members who have generously given plants this year (all previous gifts are not included) or helped us in pointing out possible sources of obtaining them.

Richard M. Abbott, Mrs. John Aldrich, Mrs. W. H. Altamer, D. M. Andrews, Wm. H. Arnold, Barr & Sons, B. R. Bales, Nathaniel Bacon, A. B. Bauer, M. C. Bell, S. S. Berry, Bobbink and Atkins, Mrs. T. Bodley, L. R. Bonnewitz, Mrs. H. R. Brant, Mrs. S. A. Brown, Geo. Bunyard & Co., Mrs. S. F. Butterworth, Mrs. Anna Byrene. C. H. Caldwell, Campos Altos Gardens, Mrs. W. L. Carter, Cayeux et Le Clerc, H. F. Chase, John Lewis Childs, Inc., Mrs. F. E. Cleveland, C. W. Coker, C. H. Connors, Mrs. M. A. Cumbler, Mrs. R. M. Davis, Mrs. J. Dean, Rev. C. H. Demet-

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In the nursery 83 varieties have been planted for competition in 1926 from the following growers: Glen Road Iris Gardens, J. M. Shull, J. J. Moffitt, Longfield Iris Farm, Frank Koehler, H. E. Weed, A. H. Scott, O. M. Pudor, Marie I. Degraffe, Jacob Schultz Co., Wm. H. Arnold, S. S. Berry, B. Y. Morrison, Mrs. R. M. Davis, D. L. Floore, F. C. Morgan, Mrs. C. S. McKinney, Louis Vasseur, Mrs. M. D. Reed.

Growers please note that 1925 planting is presumably not too late to enter plants for 1926 judging and that 1925 introductions should be entered for 1927 competition.

Alphabetical Planting

December 1924

BEARDED IRIS

Standard varieties up to and including introductions of 1920.

BED 1
Dwarf Bearded

*Alida
Alpin
Andrassy
Aphylla
*Aramis
Argus
Armee d'Orient
*Attica
Atlas
Aurea maculata
Aureola
Azurea
*Balkana
Barbara Perry
Beatrice
Benacensis
Berlioz
Betsy Presby
Blanch
Blue Beard
Blue Stone
Bouquet
*Border
*Bouvet
Brautjungfer
Bride
*Burgos
Butterfly
Californica
Canary Bird
chamaeiris
*chamaeiris alba
chamaeiris aurea
chamaeiris delicata
Charmer
Cinerea
Citrea
Clotilde
Commandant Driant
Compacta
*Comtesse d'Hauteville
Curiosa
*Curiosity
*Cyanea
Die Fee
Ditton Purple
Dixmude
Dragon
Eburna
Eclipse
Evangeline
Excelsa
*Excelsior
Fieberi
Floribunda
Florida
*Formosa
Garrick
Georges V
Gorgeous
Gracilis
Grandee
Harlequin
Harmonia

*Varieties required. Dec. 1924.

Harris
Haydn
*Hybrida aurea
Italica
John Foster
Josephine
*Kovel
La Grandesse
La Perle
Leopold
Lido
*Lobelia
*Lurida
Lutea
Lutea Maculata
Lutescens
*Lutescens aurea

BED 2

Macrocarpa
Maculata
Margaret
*Marocain
Mazarin
*Mecene
Meteor
Milton
Mireille
Miss Owen
Miss White
Mistral
Mongul
*Mrs. Hagler
*Negus
*Nimrod
Niobe
Nova Aurea
Nova Candida
Nudicaulis
*Nudicaulis purpurea
*Oddity
Orange Queen
*Oriental
*Othello
Paladin
Petit Daniel
Petite Amie
Princess Louise
Pumila
Pumila alba
Pumila atroviolacea
Queen Sophia
Redouteana
reichenbachi
Roland
Rosine
Royal Purple
Rupert
Sabrina
Samboo
*Santiago
Schneecuppe
Scott
*Siam
Snowball
Socrates
Standard
Statellae
Stewart
*Sulphurea
Topsy
Uranus
Venus
Verdun
*Villereal
Wigan
Zanzibar
Zullichau

Intermediate

Albicans
*Argus
Blue Boy
Bosniamac
Brunette
Ceres
Charmant
*Constance
Crimson King
Dauphin

BED 3

Diamond
Dolphin
*Don Carlos
Dorothea
Empress
Etta
Firmament
Florentina
Fontarabie
Freya
Fritjof
Gerda
Germanica
Germanica alba
*Germanica major
Halfdan
Helge
Hereward
Ingeborg
Ivorine
King Christian
King George V
King Humbert
Kochi
Mars
Niphetos
*Obelisque
Odin
Prince Victor
Purple King
Queen Flavia
*Reinette
Rose Unique
Royal
Sarah
Siwas
Speedwell
*Sunrise
Violet Queen
Walhalla

BED 4

Miscellaneous Bearded

Anemopsis
*Bloudowi
*Cherokee Maid
*Dilkush
*Dorak
*Flavissima
*Ferakan
*Giran
Hamadan
Ismali
Lady Lilford
Lady Lillord
Mme. Steinchen
*Nazarin
*Paracina
Parsam
*Parvar
Semele
Shiraz
Shirin
*Shushan
*Sir Dighton Probyn
*Sir Trevor Lawrence
The Dove
*Vulcan
Zwanenburg

VARIETIES INTRODUCED SINCE 1920

Dwarf Bearded

Black Midget
Glee

Intermediate

*Caucasian
*Cretan
*Felspar
Gnome
*Istrea
*Kurdistan
Soledad
Yellow Hammer

Miscellaneous Bearded

*Allegria
*Antinea
*Carmelo
*John W. Tribolet
*Maude Tribolet

TALL BEARDED STANDARD VARIETIES UP TO AND INCLUDING INTRODUCTIONS OF 1920

Tall Bearded

BED 5

Abdul Aziz
Abu Hassan
*Acquackanonk
Ada
Admiral Togo
Adonis
A. E. Kunderd
A. F. Barron
Afterglow
*Agathe
Agnes
Aika
*Aixa
Albatross
Albert Victor
Albion
Alcazar
Aletha
Alfred Fiddler
Alice
Alice Barr
Alphonse Gerard

Alvares
Amabilis
Amas
A. M. Brand
Ambassadeur
Ambigu
*Amie
*Angelo
Ann Page
Anna Farr
Anne Leslie
Annie Jane
Antinous
Apollon
*Arabesque
Arac
Archeveque
Ardenta
*Arethusa

BED 6

Argonaut
Ariane
Aristocrat
Arlequin Malinais
Armand Clavaud
Armenian
Arnois
Arsace
*Asia
Askabad
Assuerus
Assyrian
Astarte
Athene
Atlas
Atrocaerulea
Atroviolacea
Attraction
Aunt Rachel
Aurea
Aurora
Australis
Autocrat
*Avalon
Avenir
Aviator
A. W. Blakely
*A. W. Latham
Aymard
Azure

Ballerine
Barbara
Baronet
Barton Harrington
Bashi-Bazouk
*Baxter
Beauregard
Beauty
Beethoven
Belcolor

BED 7

Belle Nantaise
Benbow
Berchta
Bergi
*Bertrand
*Bessie (Fry)
Bianca
Bigotoni
Black Prince
*Blue Bird
*Blue Glory
Blue Jay
Blue Lagoon
Bluet
Boccage
Boismilon
Bosset
Boyer
Brabant
Brachycupis
Brandywine
Bridesmaid
Brionense
Britanicus
Bronze Age
Bronze Beauty
Brooklyn
Buriensis
Buriensis Elizabeth
B. Y. Morrison

Calypso
Cameleon
*Camelia
Camelot
Candelabre
Candida
Canopus
C A Pfeiffer
Caprice
Carmencita

BED 8

*Carnot
*Carthusian
Caterina
Cavalier
C. D. Hayes
Celeste
Celia
Cengialti
Cengialti purpurea
Chalcedonica
Charles Dickens
Chateaufort
Chelles
Chenedolle
Chereau
Cherubim
Chester Jay Hunt
Clara Curtis
Clarence Wedge
Clarissa
Clematis
Cleopatra
Clio
Cluny
Col. Candelot
*Col. Corwin
*Colonna
*Columnae
Como
Conqueror
Contrast
Cora
Cora Vernon
*Cordelia
Cornuault
Corrida
Cottage Maid
Courcy
*Crepuscle
Cretonne

BED 9

Crusader
Cypriana
Cytherea
*Czar
Daisy Hill
*Dalila
Dalmarius
Dalmatica
Dandy
Daniel Lessueur
*Daphne
Darius
*Darling
Dawn
Decazes
Dejazet
Delagrange
Delicata
*Delicatissima
Demi Deuil
Demure
Diadem
Diane
*Dinah
Dimity
*Dolores
*Dominion
Donna Maria
Donna Nook
Dora Longdon
Dorman
*Dorothy Rowe
Dr. Andrist
Dr. Bernice
Dr. Mantor
Dr. Sandford
Dr. Vincent
Drake
Dream
Duchess of Wellington

BED 10

*Durieu
*Dusky Maid
Dusky Prince
*E. A. Bowles
Eckesachs
*Eclaireur
*E. C. Shaw
Edina
*Edna Perry
Edouard Michel
Edward Simmons
E. H. Jenkins
E. L. Crandall
Eldorado
Elinor
*Elise
Elizabeth
Emir
Empire
Empress of India
Enchantress
*Ensign
Erich
Esmeralda
Esperance
*Ethel Leach
Eugene Bonvallet
Eugene Sue
Exquisite

Fairy
Fairy Queen
Fantasy
Fatide
Faustide
Favourite

Flammenschwert
Flavalba
*Flavesard
Flavescens
P. L. Battey

BED 11

Florence Barr
Florence Wells
Foliis Variegatis
Foster Yellow
*Francina
Freckles
*Freda
Frederick
Fro
Fryer Glory
*Fryer Lavender
*Fuerstin Lonyay
F. W. Needham
Gajus
*Ganymede
Garibaldi
Gedeon
*Gen. de Castelnau
Gen. Grant
*Gen. Marchand
Georgia
Geraldine
Germaine LeClerc
Gertrude
Gisele
Gladstone
Glitter
Gloire de Hillegom
*Gloriette
Glory of Reading
Gold Crest
Golden Plume
Goldweir
Goliath
Gov. Hughes
Gracchus
Grace Kimball
Grand Bouquet
Gray Morn
*Grevin

BED 12

Guinevere
Gules
G W Peake
Gypsy Queen
Halo
Hannibal
*Harbinger
Harriet
Harrison Weir
Hautefeuille
Hades
Hebe
Hector
*Helena
Henri Glower
Her Majesty
Herant
*Hericart de Thury
Hermia
Hermione
Herocles
Herodotus
Hiawatha
Hilda
Honorabile
Hopatcong
Hope
Hugo
*Hymen
Idion
Ignacite
Igouf
Ilsan
Indian Queen
Innocenza
*Iolanthe
Iris King
Iroquois
*Isis
Isola

BED 13

Isoline
Ivanhoe
Ivy Logan
*Jackmanni
Jacquesiana
James Boyd
J. B. Dumas
*J. C. Drake
Jean Sisley
Jeanne d'Arc
Jennett Dean
*Jessie McInness
John Bull
John Fraser
Joie de l'Oeil
Judith
Jules Pirot
Jungfrau
Juniata
junonia
Jussieu
Justinian
Kashmir White
*Kashmiriana
*Kastor
Kathleen
Kathryn Fryer
Katrinka
Kempi
Khamsin
Kharput
Khedive
*King of Blues
Knysna
Kochosum
Koya
La Beaute
La Neige
La Nuit
La Valette

BED 14

Lady Foster
Lady Franklin
Lady Holland
Lady Jellicoe
Lady Seymour
Lady Stanhope
Lancelot
Languedoc
*Laura E. Sturtevant
Laurentinus
Lavandulacea
Lavater
Le Pactole
Le Reve
Leander
Leda
Lemon
Lent A. Williamson
Leonidas
Leseble
Leverrier
Lewis Trowbridge
Leyland Huckfield
Lilacina
Lionel Millet
Lizzie
Lohengrin
Loppio
Lord Grey
Lord Macauley
Lord of June
Lord Salisbury
Loreley
Louis Van Houtte
*Louise Desavisse
Loute
Lowell
Lucy
Lugarda
*Lurline

BED 15

Ma Mie
Madison Cooper
Madonna
*Mady Carriere
Maggie
Magnate
Magnet
Magnifica
*Magnificent
*Maidens Blush
Maid Marian
Majesteux
*Majestic
Major
Malvina
Mandalay
Mandarin
Mandraliscae
Maori King
Marcelle Tinayre
Marenco
Mareschal
Margaret Moor
*Margaret Sheridan
*Margery
Margery McCord
*Marginata
*Marguerite Gaudichau
*Maria
*Marie Corelli
Marion
*Marion Loat
Marjolin
Marmora
Marshmarigold
Marvar
Mary Garden
*Mary Gray
Mary Minanelle
Mary Orth

BED 16

Massasoit
Maurelie
Mauvine
May Rose
Medallion
Medrano
*Megas
*Messonier
*Melisande
Mephistopheles
Mercedes

*Varieties required to complete planting.

Mercutio
Merlin
*Mesopotamica
Mexicana
Meyerbeer
M. G. Peters
Midas
Mikado
Minerva
Minnehaha
Minnesota
Minos
Mirage
Miralba
Miranda
Miriam
Miss Eardley
Miss Rowe
Miss Willmott
Mist
Mithras
Mlle. Schwartz
Mme. Base
Mme. Blanche Pion
Mme. Bories
Mme. Boullet
Mme. Chabal
Mme. Chereau
Mme. Cheri

BED 17

Mme. Chobaut
Mme. Claude Monet
Mme. de Sevigne
Mme. de Stael
Mme. Debura
Mme. Denis
Mme. Durrand
Mme. Guerville
*Mme. Jenneaux
Mme. Louesse
Mme. Thibault
Mme. Truffaut
*Moa
Modeste Guerin
Moliere
Monarque
*Monastir
Monhassan
Monsignor
Mont d'Or
*Monte Baldo
Montezuma
Moonstone
*Moor
Morphee
*Mort Sanford
Morwell
Mount Penn
Mozart
Mr. Shaw
*Mrs. A. M. Brand
*Mrs. Alan Gray
Mrs. Andrist
Mrs. Barron
Mrs. Blakely
*Mrs. Bossart
Mrs. Christman
Mrs. Cowley
Mrs. Curtis
Mrs. Dugdale
Mrs. Fryer

BED 18

Mrs. Geo Darwin
*Mrs. H. G. Lloyd
Mrs. Hayes
Mrs. Horace Darwin
Mrs. J. S. Brand
*Mrs. Kessler
Mrs. Kimball
*Mrs. Kingscote
Mrs. Lubiter
Mrs. McCord
*Mrs. Naegli
*Mrs. Neubronner
Mrs. Reuthe
Mrs. Ryder
Mrs. Sanford
Mrs. Smith
Mrs. Tinley
Mrs. Wedge
*Munieo
Munite
*Mystic
Myth
*Nadine
National
Naushon
Navajo
Neglecta
Nellie Quinn
Nelly
*Nemours
Neptune
*Nereus
Nibelungen
Nicola
*Nine Wells
Nirvana
Nokomis
Nothung
Nuee d'Orage
*Ochracea

BED 19

Odoratissima
*Olinda
Olivia
*Omega
Omoris
Opal
*Opera
Ophelia
*Oporto
Orangeman
Oriental
Oriflamme
Orleans
Orpheus
Osis
Ossian
Othello
*Our King
Pacquita
*Pageant
Palaurea
Palissy
Palladin
*Pallida
Pameron
*Pancrace
Pancroft
Paragon
Parc de Neuilly
*Parisiana
Parkmani
Patience
Pauline
Paxatawny
*Pendragon
Penelope
Penge
Perfecta
Perfection
Perle
Perry Favorite

BED 20

Peter Barr
Petit Vitry
Pfauenauge
Pharaon
Phidias
Phyllis Bliss
Pink Pearl
*Pioneer
Plicata Sappho
Plumieri
Pluton
Pocahontas
Poiteau
*Pollux
Pond Point
Pont-a-Mousson
Porcelain
Porsenna
Powhatan
President Thiers
Prestige
Primier
*Prince of Orange
Prince of Wales
Princess Beatrice
Princess of Teck
Princess Royal
Princess Victoria Louise
*Propendens
Prosper Laugier
Prospero
Purple and Gold
Quaker Lady
Queen Alexandra
Queen Caterina
Queen Emma
Queen Mary
Queen of May
Queen of the Dale
Queen Victoria

BED 21

Quintine
Rachel Fox
Racine
Radiance
Raffet
Rakan
*Ramapo
Rangoon
*Ranikhet
Raphael
R. C. Rose
Rebecca
*Red Admiral
Red Cloud
Red Cross
Red Glory
Regan
Reggie
Regina
Reine des Belges
Rembrandt
*Reticulata
Reticulata Alba
Reticulata purpurea
Rev. S. H. Smith
Rev. Wurtelle
*Reverie
Rhein Nixe
*Rheingauperle
Rheintraube
Rhoda
*Ricardi

Ricardi Fonce
*Richard II
*Riese Von Connern
Ring Dove
Riva
Robert Burns
Robin
Rodney

BED 22

Rollandiana
*Romany
Romeo
*Romola
Rosalba
*Rosalie
*Rose Madder
Roseway
Ruberrima
Ruby
Ruth Rand
Salar Jung
*Sambucina
Samite
Samson
Sans Souci
*Sapho
Sarabande
Saracen
Sarpedon
Saturn
Savignian
Sceptre
Schiller
Schwanhilde
Seminole
*Senarmont
*Sentinel
Shalimar
Shekinah
Shelford Chieftain
Shelford Yellow
Sherbert
Sherwin-Wright
Shrewsbury
Silva
Sincerity
Sindjkhat
*Sintram
*Sir George Gray

BED 23

Sirdar
Solfatare
*Somercoates
Souv. de Mme. Gaudichau
Sparta
Speciosa
Spectabilis
*Spotted Beauty
*Squalens
St. Clair
Stamboul
Standard Bearer
Stanley H. White
Stenophylla
*Suffren
Sultane
*Sumatra
*Sunshine
Swatara
Sweet Lavender
Swerti
Sylphide
Sylvester
Sympathy
Syphax
Taffeta
Tamar
Tamerlan
*Tangiers
Tante Aurora
Tarquin
Tartarin
Tecumseh
Tendresse
Thelma Perry
*Theresita
Thora
Thorbecke
Tineae

BED 24

Titan
Tom Cook
Tom Tit
Topaz
Toreador
*Towaco
Trautlieb
Tregastel
Trinidad
*Tristesse
Tristram
Trocelestial
Trojana
Tromagnifica
Troost
*Trosupeiba
True Charm
Tunisie
Turco
*Tuscany
Ulysses
*Umbro
Undine
Ungarica
Unique
Ute Chief
Valery Mayet
Valkyrie
Van Geerti
Variegata
Variegata minor
*Vauguelin
Venus
Venusta
Verbena
Vesuve
*Victoire
Victor Hugo
Victorine
Victory

BED 25

Vieil Or
Vierge Marie
*Viking
*Viola
Violacea Grandiflora
Virgile
Virgilia
Vondel
Wagner
Walneri
Walneriana
Walter Reuthe
Walter Scott
Wanaque
Wawayanda
Weequahic
W. F. Christman
Whiffenpoof
White Knight
White Queen
William Marshall
Willie Barr
Windham
W. J. Fryer
Wyoming
Wyomissing
Yountakah
Yvonne Pelletier
Zanardelle
Zephyr

BED 26

Zua
*Zulu
*Zumbro

VARIETIES INTRODUCED IN 1921

BED 27

Alice H. Bayne T. B (Dun)
*Ambrose Wiseman TB (Per)
*Andree Autissier TB (Den)
Antonio TB (Hor-Wal)
*Aragon TB (Bliss-Wal)
Ariadne TB (Dykes-White)
*Auburn TB (Bliss)
Barrelane TB (Sturt)
*Benoni TB (Per)
Ciel Bleu TB (Mil)
Circe TB (Sturt)
*Commodore TB (Bliss-White)
*Conchobar TB (Bliss)
Cordon Bleu TB (Sturt
C P Connell TB (Fry)
*Dr Logan TB (Fry)
Dr Lyons TB (Fry)
Dr. Vincent (Fry)
Du Guesclin TB (Bliss-Sturt)
*Dusk TB (Mor-Sturt)
Eden Phillpotts TB (Per)
Eglamour TB (Hor-Wal)
*Empress of India
*Evadne TB (Bliss)
Faith TB (Bliss)
Fenella TB (Mor-Sturt)
Francis Bennett TB (Dun)
*Gabriel TB (Bliss)
Genoa TB (Fry)
*Gladys Roberts TB (Per)
Hawthorne TB (Bliss-Sturt)
Hippolyta TB (Hor-Wal
Hubert TB (Hor-Wal)
*Hyperion TB (Bliss)
Jacqueline TB (Dun)
Joyce Resbury TB (Per)

*Lady Chas. Allom TB (Per)
Lady Lou TB (Dean)

BED 28

*Lavengro TB (Bliss-Wal)
*Louis Bel TB (Den)
*Lowell TB (Fry)
*Lynette TB (Bliss-White)
*Marcus TB (Per)
*Mary Williamson) (Wmsn-Sturt)
*Maximilian TB (Bliss)
*Menetrier TB (Den)
*Miss Broughton TB (Per)
*Miss Jessop TB (Per)
Mistress Ford TB (Hor-Wal)
*Mme. Vernoux TB (Mil)
*Monica TB (Bliss)
*Mother of Pearl TB (Sturt 1916.) Kunderd 1921)
Mrs. Haw TB (Fry)
Nancy Orne TB (Sturt)
Nubian TB (Sturt)
Oliver Perthuis TB (Mil)
*Osceola TB (Dun)
*Palmyra TB (Bliss)
*Patrician TB (Bliss-White)
*Queen Elinor TB (Hor-Wal)
*Raleigh TB (Bliss)
*Redstart TB (Bliss)
Rosalind TB (Bliss-Rosette TB (Sturt)
Rotorua TB (Bliss-White)
*Ruby Perry TB (Per)
San Gabriel TB (Dean)
*Saranac (Bliss)
Saul TB (Den)
Shotsham TB
Silver Mist TB (Dykes-White)
Splendour TB (Sturt)
*Stanley TB (Dun)
Sudan TB (Bliss)
Suzon TB (Mil)
Taj Mahal TB (Sturt)
Thundercloud TB (Sturt)
Tintallion TB Sturt)

BED 29

Titus TB (Per)
*Trianon TB (Vilm)
*Turco TB (Vilm)
Turquois TB (Dun)
*Ursula TB (Hor-Wal)
*Vincentio TB (Hor-Wal)
*Violacea Sib (Mil)
*Violetta TB (Dykes-White)
*Virgilia TB (Hor-Wal)
Virginia Moore TB (Shull)
*Virginia Pfeiffer TB (Fry)
*Waneta TB (Dun)
*Wild Rose TB (Sturt)
*Yellow-Hammer TB (Den-Wal)

VARIETIES INTRODUCED IN 1922

*Anne Bullen TB (Hor-Wal)
*Aphrodite TB (Dykes-White)
Balaruc TB (Den-Wal)
Belladonna TB (Loeh)
*Blanche (Hor-Wal)
*Bolingbroke TB (Hor-Wal)
*Brun TB (Den)
*Bruno TB (Bliss-Wal)
*Cardinal TB (Bliss-Wal)
*Catalina TB (Dean)
Cecil Minturn TB (Farr)
*Centurion TB (Bliss-White)
*Citroneila TB (Bliss-Wal)
*Conquest TB (Dykes)
*Chlorinda TB (Mor-Sturt)
*Cygnet TB (Sturt)
Damosel TB (Mor-Sturt)
*Dionyza TB (Hor-Wal)
*Duke of Bedford TB Wal)
Frank M Thomas TB (Thom)
Genghis Khan TB (Sturt)
*Germaine Perthuis TB (Mil)
*Glamour TB (Bliss-White)
Harriet Presby (Prcs)
*Inca TB (Farr)
*Istria Ib (Dykes-White)
Japanesque TB (Farr)
*J. J. Dean TB (dean)
*Joya TB (Mor-Sturt)

BED 30

*Julia TB (Hor-Wal)
*Kestrel TB (Mor-Sturt)
*Lady Byng TB (Bliss-Wal)
*Lance TB (Hor-Wal)
*Leone Trenance TB (Bliss)
*Leonato TB (Hor-Wal)
*Margery TB (Dean)
*Megas TB (Den)
*M. Hubert TB (Den)
Midwest TB (Sass-Sturt)
Milky Way TB (Sturt)
*Mrs. Walter Brewster TB (Vilm)
Pandora TB (Sturt)
*Pink Progression TB (Champe)
Polaris TB (Sturt)
Princess Osra TB (Bliss-White)
Princess Toto TB (Bliss-Sturt)
*Purple Lace TB (Sturt)
Rajput TB (Sturt)
Red Riding Hood TB (Koeh)
*R. W. Smith (Fry)
*Rose Salterne TB (Bliss-Wal)
Safrano TB (Dykes-White)
*Shylock TB (Hor-Wal)
*Simone Waissiere TB (Mil)
*Sir Hugh Evans TB (Hor-Wal)
*Speed TB (Hor-Wal)
Steepway TB (Scott)
*Superioris TB (Trax)
*Susan Bliss TB (Bliss-Wal)
*Swazi TB (Bliss-Wal)
*Tenebrae TB (Bliss-White)
Twin Larches TB (Thom)
*Tyrian TB (Sturt)
*Undine TB (Koeh)
*Vanessa TB (Bliss-White)
Warrior TB (Sturt)
*Yeoman TB (Bliss-White)
*Zouave TB (Vilm)

BEARDLESS IRISES

Acorus-aurea
Acuta (sibirica)
*A. J. Balfour (spuria)
Alba grandiflora (sibirica)
Aurea (spuria)
*Baxteri (sibirica)
*Blue King (sibirica)
*Blush White (sibirica)
*S. Bractcata
*Cambridge Blue (spuria)
*Celestial (spuria)
*China Blue (spuria)
*Chrysographes
*Coerulea (sibirica)
*Compacta (sibirica)
*Corca (sibirica)
*Delavayi
*Distinction (sibirica)
*Dorothea K. Williamson
*Dorothy Foster (spuria)
*S. Douglisiana
Emperor
Ensata
*Flexuosa (sibirica)
Foliosa
*Forrestii

S. = Seed Requested.

Fulva
*Fulvala
George Wallace
*S. Gormani
Graminea
*Grandis (sibirica)
*Grant-Duffii
*Grisii
*Haematophylla (sibirica)
*Halophila (spuria)
*S. Hartwegi
Hexagona
*Humulis
John Wister
*Kaempferi (type)
Lactea (sibirica)
Lady Northcliffe
*Laevigata (type)
Lilacina (spuria)
*S. Longipetala
*Lord Wolseley (spuria)
*Melpomene (sibirica)
Mercedes
*Minuta
Miss Bissell
Missouriensis
Missouriensis Blue Bird
Missouriensis Snow Bird
Mme Butterfly (sibirica)
*Monaurea (spuria)
Monnieri
Monspur (spuria)
*Montana
Mrs. A. W. Tait (spuria)
*Mrs. Rowe
Mrs. Sanders
*Nora Distin
Notha (spuria)
*Nurse Cavell (sibirica)
Ochroleuca
*Peggy Perry (sibirica)
Perry's Blue
*Peter Pan
Pigmy (Sibirica)
*Polaki (sibirica)
*Premier (spuria)
Prismatica
Pseud-acorus
*S. Purdyi
Red Emperor
*Ruthenica
Sanguinia
Shelford Giant (spuria)
Sibirica
*Sky Lark (sibirica)
Snow Queen (orientalis)
*Subbarbata (spuria)
Sunnybrook (sibirica)
*Superba (sibirica)
*S. Tenax
*S. Tenuis
*Thalia
True Blue
Vaga (stolonifera)
Versicolor
Versicolor Columnae
Versicolor Fosteri
Versicolor rosea
*Wasioja (sibirica)
*Wilsoni

The Test Garden for Apogon Irises

BROOKLYN BOTANIC GARDEN

George M. Reed

The test garden for Apogon Irises established by The American Iris Society at the Brooklyn Botanic Garden is still one of promise rather than of fulfilment. The original plan contemplated the study of the Japanese Irises **(Iris Kaempferi)** and a considerable number of varieties were sent to the Botanic Garden in 1920-21. However, little progress has been made in attacking the problems involved in connection with this group of Irises.

A renewed effort is now being made to effectively study the Apogon Irises, especially the Japanese varieties and it seems worth while to outline the things needed to be done and the possible ways of accomplishing them. The following program has been laid out and there is every likelihood that much may be accomplished during the next two or three years:

1. **Identification of Varieties.**—For this purpose it is necessary to get together and grow all named varieties. By means of the original published descriptions and illustrations of named varieties, correct identifications of the types may be made. Such a study will enable us to straighten out such tangles as the application of two or more names to the same plant, and also the listing of different plants under the same name.

Previous to the fall of 1924, the Botanic Garden, through the cooperation of The American Iris Society, had assembled a collection of about eighty varieties, or rather that number of plants was received under the corresponding number of names. Since then the Garden has added about fifty different plants,—many of these, however, under names already listed. Plans, however, have been completed for the importation from England of approximately one hundred varieties. A large proportion of these are listed under names which heretofore have not appeared upon our list of plants.

A few more American growers have agreed to send in plants this spring in order to aid in the study of this group. It is, however, extremely important that all distinct varieties be furnished to the Garden for study and comparison.

2. **Nomenclature.**—Since the original importations of these irises came from Japan it is very important to determine the correct Japanese name and the particular variety to which it was applied. A considerable number of importations were made independently by growers in America and Europe. A great deal of confusion in the nomenclature exists and this is due to Japanese nurserymen sending out varieties incorrectly labeled; the difficulty of spelling Japanese names, the different translations of Japanese names and the practice of renaming the Japanese varieties in Europe and America. The preparation of an authentic check-list, giving the correct spelling, meaning and application of names to definite varieties and the reduction to synonomy of the host of names which have been used, will be of great value to growers of Japanese irises.

3. **Descriptions and illustrations of varieties.**—It is highly desirable that a complete and accurate description of the true varieties be prepared. Such a description can only be made from the living plants when they are growing side by side. As many as possible of the distinct or "type" varieties should be illustrated by accurate colored drawings. It is planned to employ a capable artist in order to make colored illustrations suitable for publication. As the blooming period of the plants is comparatively short, only a few illustrations can be made in any one year. It it hoped, however, that all distinctive type varieties can thus be illustrated and that some time accurate descriptions together with these illustrations may be made available to the members of the Society.

4. **Seedlings.**—Many individuals are growing Japanese irises from seed and some of the resulting plants possess qualities of unusual merit. It is highly desirable that all plants raised from seedlings which are really superior should be compared with accepted standard varieties. It may or may not be desirable to ultimately name these; in any case, it would be of great value to be able to state that a particular seedling is of very similar type to that of a known variety.

5. **Classification.**—When we have a complete knowledge of the characteristics of the different varieties, it will be possible to prepare a classification based on color and other distinctive features. At the same time, it may be feasible to pass upon the merits of the different varieties and rank them in a similar fashion to the present ranking of the bearded irises.

6. **Culture.**—There are a number of problems connected with the growing of Japanese irises. The general report is that it is extremely difficult to keep and propagate a collection of varieties. Dealers are all the time announcing a shortage of their material. It is planned to make an effort to find out some things about the cultural requirements of these varieties. Plans are being made to take up such questions as the following:

a) Transplanting,—the time of year in which this can best be done; how frequently the plants should be divided and transplanted, etc.

b) Soil conditions,—the adaptation of these varieties to different types of soil; methods of preparing the soil; the value of flooding during the flowering period, etc.

c) Fertilization. A determination of the best methods of fertilization in order to stimulate the growth and development of the plants.

d) Diseases and control. These plants, like others, appear to have their own particular maladies. An effort will be made to determine the nature of these and the possibilities of control.

The present plans for the trial garden include the study of the other groups of Apogons, although the main emphasis for the present

will be placed upon the varieties of Japanese irises. The Garden has several varieties belonging to both the Siberian group and the Spuria group and plans have been made to increase the number of varieties of both of these. In general, studies somewhat along the same general lines as for the Japanese irises are planned.

The writer fully appreciates that this is an ambitious program and the active support of those interested in these irises is very essential. It is particularly important that authentic material of varieties be sent to the Botanic Garden for study. The members of The American Iris Society can be of very great service in furnishing plants, belonging to the various groups of Beardless Irises, from their collection.

The Botanic Garden will be able to furnish a sufficient area for growing the various varieties and seedlings. To some extent a variety of soil conditions, with reference to location, drainage, etc., can be obtained. In order, however, to secure complete data on culture it will be necessary to cooperate with private growers, wholesale nurserymen or others in the establishment of secondary collections of the Japanese varieties. In this way a greater range of conditions may be obtained and much useful information regarding these irises may be secured.

NOTE

Dr. Reed's project is a distinct step in the right direction and we sincerely hope that both as a Society and through the contributions of individual members we may carry out our part of the program.

Each member undoubtedly has at least one or two named varieties of Japanese irises and I hope they will, at once, send samples to Dr. Reed at the Brooklyn Botanic Garden, 1000 Washington ave., Brooklyn, N. Y. Our first need is plants for study and there is such confusion in nomenclature that even the most common varieties (in your judgment) may prove worthy of study and identification.

Lastly, of course, there is the need of reasonable funds. The Botanic Garden contributes land and labor. The Society, at this season of the year, even if it possessed a surplus, must refrain from special expenditures until the last bulletin is paid for. It is not our policy to make continual appeals for contributions even for so worthy a cause but here is a good opportunity to help. Ed.

OUR 1925 CATALOG

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James Boyd **John C. Wister**

Haverford, Pa.

The Show Garden at New Rochelle

E. A. S. Peckham

Note. I take unusual pleasure in presenting this brief report as it points the way to what other small groups of members may accomplish. Ed.

The show garden on the Library Grounds at New Rochelle, after various vicissitudes, has finally begun to take proper shape.

The first year after it had been laid out under the direction and through the initiative of Miss Bissell, Mrs. Hitchcock, and Mrs. Montague, the school children walked across a number of the beds in order to reach the side door of the building. The next year the Library Board and the City got together and had the grounds regraded and with the help of the Garden Club partly replanted. When it came time to take up the iris plants Miss Bissell arrived with the key plan to find the plants all taken up and heeled in together. Of course, it was then impossible to identify them until another blooming period.

During the flowering season this last year I went with Mr. Brady of the New Rochelle Park Department and two men and we had a grand digging, taking out all duplicates, scrapping the poor varieties and planting in the shrubbery the good sorts. The surplus was sent to Hudson Park for future use. With the permission of Dr. Britton and Mr. Wister I procured ninety-five varieties from the Bronx and these with contributions from Samahe Cardens, Mr. Wister's and my own garden were planted in the new beds. We also planted some Japanese varieties and others which had been purchased late in 1923 and wintered in the frames at Hudson Park. Mr. Brady also gave us other varieties to make up the Japanese planting and new labels and wire were ordered for the entire planting. The planting has been mapped and a card index of varieties and their location made.

With money given us by the Garden Club we have ordered eighteen plants of fine new varieties for spring planting and paid all the expenses including a winter-covering of salt-hay with the exception of the labor which was paid for by the Park Department.

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CONTINUOUS IRIS DISPLAY

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During the coming blooming season I will stage an exhibit at my garden of all Irises in my collection (now comprising over one thousand varieties). Starting with the early dwarfs, each variety will be on display during its blooming season, and the exhibit will continue until the latest variety has passed.

EVERY IRIS LOVER INVITED

Plan to spend a portion of the 1925 blooming season with me

LEE R. BONNEWITZ

900 S. Washington St., Van Wert, Ohio.

Iris Visits 1924, Part II

R. S. Sturtevant

With another day in Cincinnati and another round of garden visits I seemed to have reached a more sane attitude towards the really splendid new seedlings I had seen before. Mr. Wareham has the numbers but the others have some at least from the same Dominion source and I was glad to do my share in certifying a number for registration. Legend with its Cardinal richness and color and Mabel B. Taft, a Duke of Bedford type, were beauties and the yellows Alchemy and Cadmia are well worth watching although, as I had not seen Primrose or even Chalice and Gold Imperial for over a year I was not prepared to recommend them unreservedly. They were clearly deeper toned than Shekinah and together with Amber (Dykes) and Moonlit (Dykes) will compete closely with Miss Sturtevant's already introduced or registered varieties. Frankly I wonder if the time is not approaching when we will have as many and as varied yellow selfs as we have lavenders at present.

From Cincinnati it seemed a long trip up through a flat rolling country with black, plowed fields and scattered trees and groves to Fort Wayne and Mr. Mead's iris-decked garden. This was all ablaze with color. The lilacs and all but a few of the tulips were gone but the irises were approaching their prime and such masses as there were. I had an unparalled opportunity of trying to judge the color values of Roseway, Mrs. Cowley, of Mlle. Schwartz, Mme. Gaudichau and others in mass while I trotted about describing such recent novelties as Leonata, Peau Rouge, and Conquistador. The gardens are all about the house and offer some charming pictures though I liked best of all a little lilac-girt bit of turf where there were masses of Mlle. Schwartz, Avalon, Queen Caterina, Sweet Lavender, and Gaudichau just bursting into bloom. Curiously enough the thing that impressed me was not the novelties but the unusually effective massing of many of the smaller flowered recent introductions. I don't believe I shall ever like Dora Longdon and Mrs. Cowley or even Roseway but as Mr. Mead uses them, in quantity, they prove beyond cavil their garden value. The fruits of my visit you will find in the descriptions published in 1924. On the whole I was rather aghast at the lack of outstanding distinction I found in most of the European novelties. There was a splendid showing of the Wallace introductions of 1920-1922 and of all those lavender bicolors Speed and Anne Bullen were the only ones that I care much about having. With the exception of Mistress Ford they were all of good quality, often notable for their size, branching and height, but they add nothing to our range of iris colors. The older Anne Page has distinct charm; Morwell has been eclipsed; Hermione don't appeal despite its value; and as for Leonato and Souvenir de Loetitia Michaud their size was not greater than that of Conquistador or San Gabriel and there color was even less distinctive. I much preferred Silver Mist as it first opened, a small, low variety with a most descriptive name.

Among the whites the anemic Edith Cavell and Argentina were not at their best and looked surprisingly alike. I am acquiring an increasing faith that Miss Sturtevant's Milky Way and Taj Mahal combine quality and vigor to an unusual extent. Her Athene has not proved as vigorous.

At Mrs. Taft's I had seen Citronella which in color is quite comparable to the discarded Honorabilis but in height and branching is a forerunner for a new race. The stalk was at least three feet tall, the

branches widely spreading and the rather Trojana-shaped blooms of good size and substance. If it will seed I think it will prove even more noteworthy than Dominion. Gold Imperial and Chalice were in fine feather and the first was proving four inches taller than the second, a fact that was not at all apparent in our garden when they were sister seedlings. Gold Imperial has a vivid orange beard, Chalice a yellow one but otherwise they are so twin-like that no one needs them both. The proportion of stalk and flower is much better than I have ever seen in Sherwin-Wright even at its best and the increase is very rapid.

Neither the Cayeux and LeClerc introductions nor those of Perry were well-established plants. The French varieties are real additions, neither large nor tall but almost unique in coloring. Jean Chevreau one immediately classes with Loudoun as the only other yellow grounded plicata. Fedora reminded me distinctly of Sarabande and will appeal to as few people. I expect Salonique to be compared to Dalila and the even finer Mildred Presby while Peau Rouge has a red-tone peculiar unto itself and Imperator will not carry its head above Ember, Dianto, Diablo, or the redder Pioneer or Esplendido.

Neither 27 Avril nor M. Olivier Perthuis seemed to have the proper substance and sheen. The rather small flowers of Caporal, Evadne and Rugajo will I think all prove effective in mass as the lighter toned Roseway has already proved.

Although I had four delightful days with Mr. Mead I did not begin to get all the possible notes as to general effect and color groupings that were ever-present in his garden.

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My next visit was to Mr. Williamson and as I had acquired a cold from the constant paddling about in the mire, it was a prolonged and most adventurous visit,—not that anything happened but I find the man himself an adventure. His garden is non-existent but I have never seen such rows and rows of seedling irises in such a sea of mud. One step, and I took many, and I could hardly lift one foot after the other as I tracked back and forth along the rows. The very number of seedlings gives the impression that it doesn't pay to raise seedlings but where other growers have hundreds Mr. Williamson has thousands and among these are just as many fine things as I have seen elsewhere. He is certainly a wholesale hybridizer, probably a thousand blooms of Lent A. were crossed while I was there and not a flower in his small back yard but had lost a petal to mark hand fertilization. I am a believer of a selective breeding, Mr. Williamson considers the use of one fine parent enough and we waged a continued battle from early morning until the wee hours much to the bewilderment of Mr. Cook who is even more of a believer in heredity than I am and yet could not get a word in edgewise to speak his piece. We didn't agree on procedure, or color, or on what was worth naming and I can hardly wait for spring to come again so that I can renew the fight.

Considering the fact that Lent A. has been used to such an extent and in so many combinations it is amazing to find so few seedlings of its type as regards color and form. It is fairly potent in size and habit but, as I suppose is to be expected from its blended tones, the color does not carry at all. It was amusing to find among his seedlings many familiar looking combinations, things like Carcanet, Nancy Orne, Mme. Cheri, and almost duplicates of Dream and Shekinah. If I had not been already familiar with these I should have been as enthusiastic as I was with Mr. Wareham's Dominion seedlings. Even as it was I found some twelve or fifteen varieties of real distinction, and though I couldn't prevail upon their owner to apply names I shall list them with brief annotation. No. 145, Type Morning Splendour; No. 259, Type Mme. Durrand; No. 275, an enormous Afterglow; 154, a magenta hued Ember; No. 10, a very rich Dr. Bernice; No. 155 growth of Ambassadeur, coloring of Nibelungen; No. 297 a worthwhile white; an improved Purple King cup shaped and with the stiffest substance I have ever seen; a rich Quaker Lady, walnut brown shot with violet; a dark Isoline, a sole survivor; a very tall warm buff; and some lovely mauves and magentas of size and height.

One plicata was a real curiosity, its standards so incurved as to appear clamped. Then Mr. Burchfield and I shared in a considerable enthusiasm over some late flowering dwarfs—wee things ten inches in height with flowers about the size of a Siberian. If they do well they will be ideal for the rock-garden.

The Longfield Iris Farm is quite a bit out in the country and under the supervision of Mr. Cook. The frost caught practically everything

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MRS. J. F. EMIGHOLZ
3684 Boudinot Ave., Cincinnati, O.

there but a few seedlings of Blue Boy x Sherwin-Wright caught my fancy as they seemed to be intermediate in time of bloom and blended in color, a most unusual occurence. I noted with interest that Mrs. Alan Gray and Princess Victoria Louise were not affected by the frost and that Bluet and Nibelungen had about 25% of bloom while practically the entire balance of the list were completely gone.

One of the fascinating parts of the visit was an introduction to the wealth of color among the dragon-flies, Mr. Williamson's real hobby, and a study, under the binocular, of the varied surface of iris petals. Both that and Mr. Williamson's observation that the width of the stimatic lip might prove a clue to parentage will get further notice.

While at Bluffton I made a short visit to Van Wert where almost every iris flower had been frozen. Mr. Bonnewitz has the most delightful site one could imagine, a broad meadow, tree-enclosed, swales of lush green nearer the creek, and all about banks of hawthorn, viburnum and spirea. The lower parts of the nursery where the old varieties were planted were eight inches in deep in water that reflected the iris flowers to perfection. It was an unexpected and lovely picture. The European Iris Garden, on higher ground, had been razed by the frost as also had much of Mr. Wassenberg's formal garden. Back from a pleasant house stretches a long vista of green, shaded, and terminated by a pool that reflects a white pergola. To either side stretch broad panels of turf with borders of irises and peonies and still beyond are long, rose-arched paths and great plots of plants. To me it seemed a big garden but later I was taken out to the new farm with its acres of peonies. It stands on the crest of what was once, ages ago, the shore of Lake Erie and there is wide view out over the country. Already there are acres of peonies and it will be a glorious sight as one looks up the slope from the road.

Though there were no iris I enjoyed thoroughly a couple of small gardens and particularly the Oriental Poppies raised or grown by C. E. German, Trilby, the mahogany-toned Wurtemberger, and the 1924 introduction Lulu A. Neeley. That is something we will all want when the price comes down.

From all this I came back to my own garden where a stream of garden visitors made it difficult to study the new varieties available. A whole set from Mr. Weed bloomed extremely well and with the exception of Azure Glow I think they will all develop garden value. Western Dream was particularly nice. Mr. Koehler's did not bloom to any advantage, nor did those from Mr. Bliss though I was very glad to see mere samples of Majestic, Gabriel, Conchobar, Pendragon, Red Admiral Romola, and a few others which promise much once they become estab-

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lished. Arlington proved as fine in my garden as it had in Mr. Simpson's. Gen. Gallieni I did not take for particularly and of course I must restrain my enthusiasm for some of Miss Sturtevant's own seedlings. Some you will find in her 1925 catalogue and others are on their way.

Later Mr. Wister and I visited the garden of H. F. Chase where we saw Lord of June in quantity and for the first time I saw Sunshine which I frankly don't consider nearly as good as Flutter-by. I think I shall, however, reserve Massachusetts gardens for a future note and end this rambling with a mention of two new varieties Mr. Wister and I found of interest. They are Pink Lustre and Graylin (Gray) both well-named and distinctive though not of a 9.0 rating.

I have the A. I. S. to thank for bringing to me the opportunity of visiting so many iris friends. Their hospitality was unstinted and I am glad that these notes have permitted you to share the benefit and pleasure I enjoyed in so many homes and gardens.

AN INVITATION

To the Members of the American Iris Society

COME OUT TO MY GARDENS IN IRIS SEASON AND HAVE THE TIME OF YOUR LIFE

No muddy fields to walk through; just smooth velvety grass walks in a veritable park, with shady nooks and inviting seats and a fountain where you can see gold fish a foot long swimming among the finest water lilies. A garden of enchantment one visitor called it last summer.

Since it is not practical to travel all over the world to examine new varieties, I have brought them all here, where you can see them growing in one place under ideal conditions; and judging from past experience, most of them should be blooming next June.

Here you will find **ALL THE 1923 AND 1924 INTRODUCTIONS OF PERRY, VILMORIN, CAYEUX, MILLET;** also such varieties as Bruno, Duke of Bedford, Bertrand, Dominion, Pioneer, Lady Byng, Cardinal, Gabriel, Majestic, Glamour, Pendragon, Evadne, Romola, Auburn, Mystic, Hyperion, Titan, Canopus, Susan Bliss and others of the famous Bliss seedlings; the entire sets of the late William Mohr seedlings introduced during 1923 and 1924; Fryers Famous Magnificent, as well as his other recent introductions; the best of the recent introductions of our American pioneer Iris hybridist, the late Bertrand Farr, such as Brandywine, Seminole, Cecil Minturn, Japanesque, Sea Gull, Mildred Presby, Georgia, all secured from the originators to be sure of genuine stock. You will also find such recent introductions of Newlands as Bolingbroke, Leonato, Volumnia. Theseus; such introductions of Dykes as Harmony, Cretan, Charmian, Cymbeline, Octavia, Lulworth, Moonlight, Wedgewood, Aphrodite, Sapphide; not to mention varieties previously introduced by these and other hybridists, such as Gaudichau, Asia, Avalon, Ballerine, Lent Williamson, Ambassadeur, Magnifica, Queen Caterina, Harriet Preshy, Halo, Kashmir White, Leverrier, Lord of June, Marsh Marigold, Mlle Schwartz, Mme. Durrand, Medrano, Shekinah, San Gabriel, Regan, Prospero, Mother of Pearl, Sweet Lavender, Valery Mayet, Balaruc.

DOES THIS LIST INTEREST YOU

Well it doesn't tell half the story, for there are also Edith Cavell, Autumn King, Bashi Bazouk, Beau Ideal, Kalos, B. Y. Morrison, Geo. Wallace, Corrida, Daphne, Moonstone, Pink Pearl, Dream, Dimity, Jubilee, Lona, Eglamour, E. H. Jenkins, Lady Lou, Emir, Genghis Khan, White Queen, Pont a Mousson, Midwest. And there is a complete set of new seedlings by Goos & Koeneman; there is Odette Olivet by Nonin. And some new dwarfs and intermediates, and hundreds of others too numerous to mention. There will be surprises waiting for you at every turn.

Come around and see the varieties you always wanted to see, but never knew where to find them. You will probably find them here if they are worth growing.

Bring your note book and pencil along, as they are all plainly labeled. And you'll find 150 varieties of the world's choicest Peonies and other interesting plants.

ROBERT WAYMAN, **BAYSIDE, LONG ISLAND, N. Y.**

Tid Bits, 7th

I had hoped by this late date to have some number of responses to the suggestion for an informal symposium but Messrs. Mead, Burchfield, and I are the only ones who seem ready to commit ourselves to a definite rating of novelties although I think Mr. Wister gave me a list which has been mislaid. There are, however, a number of less definite opinions which should prove of interest and I think you will all be amused at our varied lack of agreement as regards varieties. The ratings, in some cases, begin with 1919 introductions and include few of the 1924 vintage. I shall give only approximate figures and, by the way, please note that there were only six returns to the 1919 list sent to all members.

Varieties rated by Sam Burchfield, Mich. OVER 9.0. Ambassadeur, Asia, Prospero, Antonio, Eden Philpotts, Chasseur, Imperator, Mary Williamson, 8.5 TO 9.0. Brandywine, Butterfly Sib., Georgia, Grevin, Hermione, Magnifica, Moliere, Mrs. Cowley, Olivia, Raffet, Seminole, Eglamour, Lavengro, Mother of Pearl, Splendour, Bruno, Duke of York, Eclaireur, George Yeld, Jean Chevreau, Lord Lambourne, Mme. Janiaud, Mme. Lamouche, Mrs. Fred Stern, Mrs. Hetty Matson, Mrs. H. F. Bowles, Nancy Orne, Nefert, Peau Rouge, Robert W. Wallace. 8.0 TO 8.5. Angelo, Cluny, Daphne, Dolores, Eckesachs, Mary Orth, Thomas Kingscote, Andree Autissier, Gnome, Hippolyta, Mistress Ford, Mme. Verneux, Ursula, Vincentio, Cecil Minturn, Harriet Presby, M. Hubert, Carmelo, Duchess of York Sib., Fedora, Mentor, Mestor, Morning Splendour, Mrs. Vicssieux, Olympus, Rene Denis, Salonique, Sheldrake, Souv. de Loetitia Michaud, Suzanne Autissier, W. E. Terry, Yolande. 7.0 TO 7.9 INCLUSIVE. Flammenschwert, Francinna, Mandarin, Marginata, Maria, Mrs. Tinley, Rachel Fox, Rangoon, Regan, Samite, Sunrise, Tamar, Tuscany, Ute Chief, Ambrose Wiseman, Du Guesclin, Gladys Roberts, Hubert, Joyce Resbury, Menetrier, Miss Broughton, Miss Jessop, Oliver Perthuis, Rosalind, Saul, Silver Mist, Sudan, Suzon, Trianon, Turco, Violetta, Virginia Moore, Yellow Hammer, Brun, Inca, Kurdistan, Leone Trenance, Leonato, Megas, Mrs. Walter Brewster, Simone Wassiere, Steepway, Susan Bliss, Zouave, Abenda, Achates, Anoba, Austin, Balboa, Bertrand Galloway, Catalosa, Chaber, Chrysofor, Chrysosib, Conquistador, Cybele, Deucalion, Dorinde, Erato, Ferona, Franklin Beyson, Gen. Gallieni, Geomori, Harpalion, Helio, Helvetia, Lepinoux, Marian Mohr, Marian Cran, Maxime Cornu, Mme. Cecile Bouscant, Mme. Emma Nevada, Mme. Masse, Mrs. Maurice Pritchard, Mrs. Nandy Hoskins, Mrs. Naegli, Muzeris Nero, Palemon, Pelopidas, Peronne, Prince Lohengrin, Seagull, Silver Dale, Telemus, 27 Avril, Troades. Below 7.0 Argonaut, Dorothy Rowe, Mercutio, Naushon, Benoni, Caucasian, Edith Cavell, Hawthorne, Marcus, Queen Elinor, Balaruc, Belladonna, Red Riding Hood, Hakador, Thora Perry.

I find myself in substantial agreement with Mr. Burchfield though I thing it rather suspicious that so few of Miss Sturtevant's seedlings have been included. I don't know what he has but it looks as though he wished to save my feelings as a compiler.

Ratings from Mr. Mead, Ind. 9.0 OR OVER. Ochracea, Titan, Ambassadeur, Angelo, Asia, Ballerine, Hermione, Magnifica, Conchobar, Mary Williamson, Mother of Pearl, Aphrodite, Bruno, Duke of Bedford, Glamour, Harriet Presby, Susan Bliss, Tenebrae, Jean Chevreau, Salonique, Souv. de Loetitia Michaud, 8.5, Ann Page, Drake, E. H. Jenkins, Miranda, Ensign, Georgia, Medrano, Prospero, Moa, Phyllis Bliss, Roseway, Valkyrie, Regan, Seminole, Dusk, San Gabriel, Dionyza, Leonato, Sp ed, Yeoman, Chasseur, Conquistador, Glowing Embers. 8.0. Baronet, Cretonne, Dimity, Grand Bouquet, Jennett

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SAM BURCHFIELD

ANN ARBOR HURON VALLEY IRIS GARDENS **MICHIGAN.**

Dean, Jussieu, Brandywine, Cluny, Daphne, Firmament, Grevin, Mary Orth, Lancelot, Sweet Lavender, White Queen, Moliere, Mrs. Cowley, Mrs. Tinley, Olivia, Raffet, Tamar, Ute Chief, Edith Cavell, Empress of India, Hippolyta, Nancy Orne, Taj Mahal, Yellow Hammer, Mrs. Walter Brewster, Zouave, Balboa, Carmelo, Chatelet, De Grully, Fedora, Mrs. Viesseur, Peau Rouge, Rene Denis, Blue Bird, Blue Lagoon, Mauvine, Mme. Boullet, Mme. Denis, Rodney, Tristram, 27 Avril. **7.0** Francina, Helena, Koya, Leander, Samite, Hubert, Rosalind, Saul, Silver Mist, Viking, Trianon, Turco, Virginia Moore, Wild Rose, Lance, Eclaireur, Imperator, Montserrat, Seagull.
BELOW 7.0. Fryer Glory, Glitter, Reverie. Mr. Mead has been a most kindly gentleman.

In presenting my own ratings I hope that I may be permitted to explain briefly what they mean when I give them in so wholesale a manner. Over 9.0 varieties I think every one ought to have, 8.5 to 9.0 I know that I want, 8.0 to 8.5 signifies very often a variety of the highest intrinsic quality that does not possess any unique color that adds to our garden effect—it is wholly a matter of personal preference. 7.5 to 8.0 ratings usually mark some lack of a quality which I consider most important, 7.0 varieties I often want though their quality is not high and I rarely want anything below 7.0. Throw them to limbo, either they are too close in color to something else or worthless as far as I am concerned. I am also going to put a ? on the varieties that I have not seen as established plants.

OVER 9.0. Ambassadeur, Asia, 8.5 TO 9.0. Ann Page, Moa, Cardinal, Stanley H. White, Sweet Lavender, Ballerine, Baronet, Bertrand, Cluny, Majestic, Mary Orth, Seminole, Anne Bullen, Bruno, Citronella, Chlorinda, Cygnet, Genghis Khan, Glamour, Kestrel, Milky Way, Polaris, Speed, Steepway, Susan Bliss, Swazi, Tyrian, Azrael, Balboa, Baldur, Carmelo, Black Midget, Delight, Glowing Embers, Jean Chevreau, Nancy Orne, Mildred Presby, Morning Splendour, Prof. Seeliger, Sir Galahad, Julie Marlowe, True Charm, Argentina, Arlington, Beau Ideal, Bonfire Congo, Day Dream, Elegy, Valkyrie, Druid, Elaine, Elegy, Ember, Esplendido, Flambeau, Gold Imperial, Homer C., Horizon, Ishtar, Jubilee, L'Aiglon, Legend, Loudoun, Ortrud, Prospero, New World, Pachyderm, Petruchio, Prince Charming, Prosperity, Rialgar, Rosado, Rosy Youth, Soledad, Sophronia, True Delight, Pioneer, Rosado, Azulado, 8.0 TO 8.5. Ensign, Georgia, Laura E. Sturtevant, Olivia, Pageant, Pendragon?, Red Admiral?, Romola, Conchobar? Cordon Bleu, Du Guesclin, Dusk, Hippolyta, Lady Charles Allom, Mary Williamson, Mother of Pearl, San Gabriel, Cecil Minturn, Cretonne, Canopus, Dimity, Jennett Dean, Marsh Marigold, Miranda, Ochracea, Phyllis Bliss, Damozel, Dionyza, Duke of Bedford?, Leonata, Rajput, Tenebrae, Yeoman, Bronze Lady, Rodney, Titan, Conquistador, Dianto, Fedora, Glee, Magnificent, Mariposa, Marian Mohr, Marian Cran, Nimbus, Peau Rouge, Primrose, Prince Lohengrin, Souvenir de Loetitia Michaud, Western Dream, Yellow Moon, Yeolande, Acheron, Beryl, Asphodel, Alchemy, Cadmia, Caroline E. Stringer, Chalice, Desire, Endymion, Feldspar, Garden White, Garnet, Golden Fleece, Helene Koehler, Horizon, Robert W. Wallace, Ishtar, Jacinto, Kalif, Karen, Lona, Sherbert 2nd, Silverado.

7.5 TO 8.0. Angelo, Athene, Daphne, Dorman, Eckesachs, Flammenschwert, Hermione, Hilda, Medrano, Mrs. Tinley, Pink Pearl, Regan, Tamar, Ute Chief, Zulu?, Antonio, Barrelane, C. P. Connell, Edith Cavell, Eglamour, Empress of India, Evadne, Gabriel?, Palmyra?, Rotorua?, Silver Mist, Tintallon, Wild Rose, Aphrodite, Balaruc, Frank M. Thomas, Germaine Perthuis, Harriet Presby, Mid West, Pandora, Princess Osra, Princess Toto, Purple Lace, Red Riding Hood, Rose Salterne, Twin Larches, Warrior, Joya, Ak-Sar-Ben, Dreamlight, Greater May Queen, Imperator? Maori Princess, Montserrat, Mrs. Fred Stern, Mrs. Naegli, Petrel, Rosedale, Ruby Queen, Rugajo.

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Simplicity, Suzanne Autissier, 27 Avril, Whim, Karen, Petrel, Fenton, Argynnis, Curlesque?, Diablo, Elinor Blossom, Graylin, Kera, Lona, Mme. Abel Chatenay, May Morn, Naomi, Old Ivory, Sapphid, Simplyd, Tancred, Timur, Woden, Barton Harrington, Bashi-bazouk, C. A. Pfeiffer, Drake, Dusky Maid, E. H. Jenkins, Fryer Glory, Iolanthe, Jussieu, Katrinka, Madison Cooper.

7.0 TO 7.5 A. M. Brand, A. W. Latham, Blue Bird, Blue Lagoon, Cornuault, Diadem, Dr. Andrist, Gen. de Castlenau?, Lancelot, Mauvine, Mme. Baze, Mme. Boullet, Mme. Denis, Mrs. A. M. Brand?, Prestige, Romany, Speedwell, Tristram, Wawayanda, White Queen, Autocrat, Brandywine, Caporal, Fantasy, Francinna, Fuerstin Lonygay, Grevin, Koya, Leander, Moliere, Moonstone, Mrs. Cowley, Onnoris, Opal, Rachel Fox, Raffet, Caucasian?, Circe, Fenella, Lady Lou?, Nubian Ollvier Perthuis, Queen Elinor, Rosette, Splendour, Vincentio?, Cretan?, Chatelet, Pensamiento, Solana, Flutterby, Feldspar, Rosedale, Frankly I want a lot of these in my garden regardless of the apparently low rating.

BELOW 7.0. Carmencita, Helena, Ilsan, Mandarin?, Maria, Mercutio, Midas, Samite, Clarence Wedge, Glitter, Grand Bouquet, Hopatcong, Mort Sanford, Paxatawney, Towaco, Taffeta, Toreador, Gnome, Grandeur, Hawthorne, Hubert, Jacqueline, Menetrier?, Mistress Vieil Or, Yountakah, Ford, Osceola, Rosalind, Saul?, Stanley?, Titus?, Trianon, Turco, Turquoise?, Waneta?, Yellow Hammer, Belladonna, Brun?, Inca, Japanesque, Azure Glow, Catalosa, Ferona?, George Yeld, Hermosa, Mentor?, Olympus?. Orchid, Somorrin, Troades?, Elinor Blossom, Paradise. And some people will like some of them very much but their colorings do not appeal to me and I think none have any other outstanding qualities.

It has been a long and arduous row to hoe and I guess it is just as well that others did not also rank this wealth of novelties. I trust that you were not surprised to find many of Miss Sturtevant's listings high in my list. I have had all sorts of chances to turn down these even before they were introduced.

Mr. Williamson's new catalog has just come to hand with a group of seven new introductions, new in so far as they have not been previously distributed under name. Many of us, however, have grown them under number and though they will not receive the high rating accorded Lent A. they will find a place in many a garden if only because that they are so thrifty in growth and distinctive in coloring. I am glad that he no longer sells seedlings under number. In a way I suppose there is little difference between a name and a number but numbers are contrary to the Code of Nomenclature and are open to the objection that many growers number all their plants and that there is a consequent chance for error. And then, too, Williamson No. 69 was a rather unwieldly handle for an upstanding iris. The fact that these varieties have lived and created many friends for at least seven or eight years reveals their garden value. The use of dragon-fly names is often euphonious and always distinctive of the introducer.

SOME ENGLISH NOTES

from G. L. Pilkington, Treasurer of The Iris Society

"I agree most heartily concerning the wholesale introduction of new varieties, there are some great sinners on both sides of the Atlantic in this respect and a check must be put on them. I have discarded dozens of the old Bliss things which were a rage when you were over here last,

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also nearly all my Farr productions. I still like Juniata as much as anything he has raised (of what I have seen) for its general character despite its common colour.

"First of all let me confess that I place size of flower and height and branching of stalk before everything, (you will think me an awful heretic) next comes form of flower—I consider Ballerine nearly perfect in form but there are many others which approach to this ideal and which are good enough—colour, I fear, comes last. When all is said and done one often places a variety very high up and then finds that the attributes one is aiming at do not come in the order named; this I suppose is human nature.

"Now for new varieties. I went over to Paris and spent the afternoon with Lionel Millet during the first week in June. I knew I should find some giants there. The most startling iris in his garden was Micheline Charraire (Denis) a huge white of Ricardi parentage. This is far the finest white I have ever seen. I got a plant, although I don't care about white flowers of any sort and I hope it will not die on me. Another very fine thing is Souvenir de Loetitia Michaud (Ric. x Corrida (Millet). This was shown by Bunyard at the R. H. S. Hall a week later and excited universal comment; very tall and branching, huge flowers of Mlle. Schwartz shape and texture but much larger. Simone Vaissiere (Millet) good; Leverrier also good I thought though rather a touchy one to grow in a wet climate I believe; Suzon, valuable on account of its late flowering, tall but of rather dull colouring; Germaine Perthuis, a purple bicolor of some substance, not very tall, about 3 ft.—Millet considers this one of his very best—; Louis Bel (Denis) another very fine deep purple bicolor of great vigor and a good deal of substance in flower. Mme. Durrand, one of my favorites I consider an absolute masterpiece, a good clump of this in full bloom is most impressive, no doubt it is the unusual coloring which tells.

"27 Avril (Mm's Denis birthday) is certainly a flower of substance and has a velvety appearance in the falls. It gave me the impression, however, of being too massive for the flower stalk, the colour scheme reminded me of Lent A. Imperator is, I should think, good but I only saw the last flower and marked it xxx? meaning "probably very good".

"Of the older sorts I noted Arsace, Crepuscule (wonderful colour, he said one of the parents of Gaudichau) Dr. Bless and M. Austin good reds (dwarfs) also Cora, Igouf and Daniel Leseur. Millet had a very poor opinion of the Dominion Race, said they were dwarf! He had Dominion, Canopus, and Titan, I think, none of them four footers but Canopus grows three feet generally.

"I looked in at the Paris show. It had been open six days and the iris were in poor shape. On Cayeux's stand I noted one or two; Gloriae, didn't care for it; Paul Huet, red-lilac shot, Cert. Merit, poor; Alcibiade, large, ordinary things, should guess Alcazar x Amas.

Le Vardar, pale pink pallida of excellent form. Good xxx (not cataloged by Cayeux)

Marc Aureau, rose purple self. Good xx.

William Marshall, tall. Good xxx.

Mansard, an Ed. Michel of inferior size, good for massing probably. x

Fidelio, pallida seedling rather like Caterina in coloring, rather ordinary. x.

Peau Rouge, wonderful coloring but rather small and too tucked up in flower to attract me.

Salonique, good, the standards are a gloriously clear sulphur colour. xxx.

Trouvaille. quite good but not as good as Salonique. xx.
Saul, not impressed.
Dryade, large heavy flowered thing, not sufficiently branching.

"Vilmorin had nothing new on his stand but masses of his older sorts with Ambassadeur to the fore. I consider that this latter is probably the finest "all round" iris of recent introduction, terrific grower, hardy, less liable to disease than many and always attracts attention by reason of its colour and stoutness of its blooms.

Of English introductions I could say a lot. We have had a few good ones, one or two notably so.

Bliss. His new Dominion, Romola (Orp.) is one of the finest of the race I think but one must not judge on first season. Of the Dominions as a class I am inclined to think that Bruno, Duke of Bedford, Glamour, and Moa are the best. I don't know Majestic well enough to offer an opinion. Titan is a clumsy flower of bad colouring. Bertrand is a breeder pure and simple, a great massive thing. Swazi is close to Duke of Bedford, Cardinal not as good as Bruno or Moa, Canopus an improved Alcazar (I like Canopus) and not as much thought of by the experts on this account. Pioneer (Wal.) is a really good thing, a red-purple of great substance (not a Dominion). Citronella is a curiosity—no more, Gabriel an improved E. H. Jenkins and not a Dominion I should say.

Dykes. Peerless (Orp.) This is a very fine thing after the style of Magnifica.
Amber a seedling of Shekinah and claimed to be a richer colour. I only saw cut blooms so do not offer an opinion. On the show bench it looked the same as Shekinah.

Aphrodite (Orp. 1922) This is the best tall pink in cultivation as far as I have seen, Perry's Marion Cran is a better form but not so pink in tone.

Yeld. His Duchess Sarah (Orp.) is quite a nice thing, a purple bicolor of Sarpedon form of colour but more substance considerably.

Perry. has a number of varieties. (Your check list bristles with them) He has a very fine pallida strain in Duke of York, Nemoralia, and Marjorie Tinley. They are all very close and all pale mauve pink with that glistening gold sheen more marked in one than another, large flowers on tall, branched stalks.
George Yeld is a good variety of rather novel colour but the catalogue description rather overdoes it.
Eden Phillpotts is a fine thing though like many of the Perry varieties it is rather thin. (lacks substance).
Lord Lambourne is excellent, quite a class of its own in colour. Abenda is almost a smaller flowered edition of it.
Gladys Roberts is a good ceng x pal; also Lady Charles Allom. This latter is probably the best of its class in commerce.
Olive Murrell (named after Mrs. Murrell of the Orpington Nurseries) is attractive, a higher class Quaker Lady aptly describes the flower. Lady Sackville is glorious to my mind, though rather too floppy perhaps. The contrast of the standards and falls and the huge beard is notable.
Mary Gibson, one of Perry's masterpieces.
Mrs. H. F. Bowles a second to the above in this style of colouring (Olive Murrell belongs to the same group).

Hort. Nothing very new introduced this year. Purple bicolors. I think his best are Anne Page, Leonato, Speed and Proteus, the last named an immense flower. Leonato is undoubtedly very fine indeed, a perfect shaped flower of great size on a very tall stalk. Speed is very

good but the stems are flexuous. Theseus a white exhibited at Chelsea this year I was not much taken with—too heavy.

I must now advance with care, when I relate my opinion of American varieties.

Farr. Juniata, Seminole, Mount Penn, Montezuma are the best four of those I have grown for the past three years. Seminole is better than Powhatan I think, Montezuma is an awful colour but valuable on this account. Chester Hunt, Mary Garden, Minniehaha, Pauline, Windham, Wyomissing, all 6.0. Quaker Lady is pretty and good for massing. I am trying Swatara but I rather doubt if the colour scheme is really pleasing though the flowers seem larger than his usual average.

Sturtevant. From a general experience of about 25 of this raiser's things I consider that on the average they are far ahead of any of the U. S. A. introductions in this country. There are many good things among them. Queen Caterina and Avalon I rate pretty high. I like Magnate very much but it is a pity it is not a taller spike. Baronet is good, Shekinah probably the best yellow in commerce. Nirvana just misses being good, the colour too muddy to my mind. Mandelay is no good, Sindjkha a good spike but the colour scheme is not very pleasing and it is surpassed by others whose colour is somewhat similar. Koya is quite pretty. Mme. Cheri I think I shall like very much but I have only just got this, together with Dream. I liked them both very much when shown by Murrell this year. Valkyrie is a monstrosity in colour but interesting. Nearly all the above have tall flower stalks of branching habit and have furthermore flowers of above average size. Afterglow and B. Y. Morrison I am not very struck with and Dykes' Lulworth is probably a better B. Y. M.

Of Lent A. Williamson I need not say much, it still stands very high amongst any company. I liked Morning Splendor (Shull) which I saw at Wallace's and I have Sir Galahad, Tropic Seas, and Julia Marlowe to try. If they are of the same stamp as Morning Splendor they should be pretty good.

I am a good deal interested in Wm. Mohr's seedlings. I saw Balboa and Conquistador this year the latter is very fine an unusual shade of a very ordinary colour. I should imagine that Marian Mohr, Santa Barbara, and Prince Lohengrin are all pretty good, also Baldur (Morrison).

I flowered a number of my own seedlings this year of Alcazar x Lord of June and vice versa. They were a very ordinary lot but of very great size of bloom, mostly well over three feet in height but all lack substance and inherit Lord of June floppiness. The Alcazar x Stamboul seedlings were a better lot and two out of fifty odd are not bad. All are tall and branching and pretty big flowers of fair (only) substance. Predominating colour in all of the above is rosy violet, pale, dark, muddy, with gold sheen, and so on. Another batch was Crusader x Mt. Penn, all pale blues, one or two very bright and clear but all except one of very poor form,—large open characterless flowers. Then I had Tuscany x Lady Foster and Troyana x Lady Foster seedlings, typical Trojanas of varying shades of purple and violet. With all the rain it has been a very poor seed year".

I have just received a note from Mrs. Peckham and the heading on the paper carries a suggestion that I would like to see taken up by others members.

THE AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY

Group at New Rochelle, N. Y.

Local Secretary
Mrs. James J. Montague
204 Drake Ave.

Local Leader
Mrs. Lucius W. Hitchcock
Premium Point Park

Thus it reads and it would be a great thing for the Society if other groups with other leaders and secretaries were developed in many iris centers. It is far more reasonable for a small group of members to get together informally than to attempt to organize a Society with the consequent red-tape. Irises are lovely and most intriguing I confess but there are few places where a large body of enthusiasts can be expected to devote their energies to iris alone when there are so many other flowers that merit attention. Every town should have its garden club or village improvement society and, most assuredly, every town should have a group of A. I. S. members but it should be a group that would cooperate with the national iris society and the local interests rather than a local society devoted to local iris interests alone.

Wellesley Farms, Mass. R. S. Sturtevant, Sec'y.

Exhibitions 1925

For further information write local secretaries as starred in the geographical listing in the 1923 Membership List as the following are the only notices received in response to our questionaire.

Cincinnati, Ohio. E. E. Hardcastle, 2969 Madison Road.

Columbus, Ohio. Mrs. J. C. Arbuckle, Station 8.

Des Moines, Iowa. Mrs. W. G. Dumont, 2700 49th St.

Indianapolis, Ind. Miss Helen E. Ricketts, 3215 North Olney St.

Kansas City, Kan. Percy W. Smith, Merriam, Kansas.

Lexington, Ky. Mrs. W. L. Carter, 430 West 6th St.

Lynchburg, Va. Miss Josephine Kinnier, 518 Washington St.

Minneapolis, Minn. Prof. E. C. Carey, University Farm School, St. Paul. Early June.

Mount Vernon, N. Y., Cooperative Show of the New Rochelle, Larchmont, Pelham, Scarsdale, and Mount Vernon Garden Clubs. June 2nd. Louis Schmidt, Tecumseh Ave., Mount Vernon, N. Y.

Iris Field Day at the New York Botanical Garden which is near by, to be held June 3rd.

Rockford, Ill. May H. Joslyn, 968 No. Main St.

Saginaw, Mich. Mrs. R. W. Roberts, 1320 So. Washington Ave.

There are seven classes for irises in the schedule for the Azalea, Iris, and Rhododendron Show, at Boston, June 6th and 7th and I have been in communication concerning iris exhibits in many other localities.

A visit to Long Island Gardens has been suggested for early June. If interested write R. S. Sturtevant, Wellesley Farms, Mass.

Officers, 1925

President. JOHN C. WISTER, Clarkson Ave. and Wister Sts., Germantown, Philadelphia, Pa.

Vice-President. FRANKLIN B. MEAD, State Blvd., Fort Wayne, Ind.

Secretary. R. S. STURTEVANT, Wellesley Farms, Mass.

Treasurer. ARTHUR H. SCOTT, Front and Market Sts., Chester, Pa.

AS A MEMBER you received in 1924 four Bulletins, over 160 pages, almost 100,000 words about that most indispensable and beautiful of hardy flowers, the Iris.

AS A MEMBER you were able to advise your garden friends in their selection of varieties with authority.

AS A MEMBER you knew what to buy, and where, to the best advantage.

AND

AS A MEMBER does not your Society deserve your cooperation, that little extra personal effort that will bring an increase in membership and a wider opportunity to extend in your community a greater appreciation of the infinite spirit of the garden?

TO MEMBERS

We can now supply copies of Addisonia, Vol. 9, No. 4. with color plates and full descriptions of Iris carolina, I. hexagona, I. foliosa, I. versicolor, I. cristata, I. lacustris, and the new native species I. savannarum and I. kimballiae recently collected by Dr. John K. Small in Florida. A limited number of copies available at $2.00 each.

"IRISES FOR THE BEGINNER"

is well-worth recommending to your garden friends. $.50 only.

Front & Market Sts.
Chester, Pa.

Arthur H. Scott, Treas.

"Caesar" (Nigrescens x Blue King)
A rich pansy purple raised by F. Cleveland Morgan

E. B. Williamson at Work.

Garden of Mrs. Early, Kenya Colony, South Africa.
Irises, germanica and Florentina.

$100.00 PRIZE

OFFERED BY ROBERT WAYMAN

for the

BEST UNINTRODUCED TALL BEARDED IRIS RATING OVER 9.0

Conditions of Competition. Competing varieties shall be grown, under number, at the A. I. S. Test Garden at New York * and judged, in accordance with the official score card, in two consecutive years, by 3 judges selected by the officers of the Society.

It shall be understood that all plants and their increase shall, upon request, be returned to the competitors after judging with the exception of one plant of the winning variety which shall become the property of Robert Wayman.

No variety is eligible if introduced before the final judging in 1929 and if no award is made previous to 1932 the conditions may be changed with the approval of the donor or the Board of Directors of the Society. The prize may be divided at the discretion of the judges.

The term "best" shall be understood to include not only the usual qualities of vigor, freedom of bloom, etc., but also an exceptional outstanding quality comparable to the distinction due a clear yellow Ambassadeur, a variegata Alcazar, or an Amoena of Queen Caterina quality. No mere improvements in height, size, or color will be considered in the award.

*At the discretion of the competitor and, upon the understanding that the prize is increased to $150.00, 4 plants of the competing variety may be sent for competition; one to the New York Test Garden, and one to each of the 3 judges appointed.

*From Bulletin 10, page 60.

SCORE CARD FOR GARDEN IRISES

PLANT—20%.	
Growth exceedingly strong and vigorous.	10%
Effect in garden; free flowering, floriferous.	10%
STALK—20%.	
Poise: the flowers pleasingly proportioned in size and form to the height and branching of the stalk.	10%
Height: preferably over 40 in. in the taller groups or over 30 in. in the variegata, or amoena groups.	10%
FLOWER—35%.	
Color: clear; venation or reticulation, if noticeable, clearly defined.	15%
Form: if distinctive and pleasing; e. g. Princess Beatrice, Queen Caterina.	10%
Size e. g. Juniata, Rhein Nixe, Sindjkha of their types.	10%
Substance: firm and resistant to weather conditions.	10%
OUTSTANDING QUALITY—Unless a variety is **both clearly distinct and pleasing**, it should receive no credit on this point.	15%
Distribution: Fragrance not over 5%; foliage thruout season not over 10%; value for exhibition or as a cut-flower not over 5%; exceptional development of form, color, or substance not over 5% each.	